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Correspondence from practical farmers, giving the result of their experiments, is solicited, and letters should be signed with the writer's real name, in case it may be printed or not, as the writer may wish.

THE PLOUGHMAN offers great advantages to advertising men. Its circulation is large and among the most active and intelligent portion of the community.

Entered as second-class mail matter.

Machine Farming in a Hill Town.

The farming experiences of a retired grocer of Holyoke have been attracting considerable attention in western Massachusetts. The farm is located in a neighborhood where land is cheap. A pasture of one hundred acres with some woodland was recently sold for \$175 and run down farm land of various grades is valued at only about \$10 per acre. It is a region typical of the hill sections of western New England, with good soil and good agricultural conditions not fully appreciated by the owners and by real estate agents.

This Holyoke grocer, J. R. Smith by name, bought fifteen hundred acres of this run down farm land in the town of Hawley, about five years ago, including considerable valuable woodland in his purchase at the low price mentioned. The large farm thus acquired was then equipped with up-to-date modern machinery, including sulky plows, manure spreaders, potato planters, spraying machinery, harvesters, binders, mowers, threshers, hay forks, ice cutting machinery, dairy implements. It is thus an interesting experiment on the possibility of profitably using wholesale Western methods on low-priced New England land.

It must be said that so far the improvement in the land must be taken as a part or all of the profit. The owner is positive that now that the fields are cleared of brush and stone, his enterprise will prove a success in every way. The total investment represents a sum of \$30,000 and good crops are needed to pay interest, expenses and profits. His twenty acres of potatoes this year cost him for labor and fertilizer, etc., \$100, but the crop is 250 bushels to the acre, and he hopes to receive \$2500 from his potatoes alone. He uses fertilizer liberally, a ton to the acre, and after the potatoes he gets a heavy crop of hay for the next five years.

The farm laborers include a number of Italians hired from the neighboring city of Springfield. These are paid \$20 per month and board, and prove good workers; quiet and not given to complaining of twelve hours a day work in the busy season. Good board and good beds contribute to their comfort, likewise the use of labor-saving machinery, and they appear better contented than the average farm help.

Farming as a Business.

Higher cultivation is the watch-word. G. M. Clark, Higganum, Ct.

We should realize that we have a grand opportunity, a business that will pay sure earnings, that will keep pace with the expense.—C. S. Stetson, Androscoggin County, Me.

As a matter of fact, there is no money in farming under present conditions, and it is radically wrong to make an attempt to deceive the farming community by trying to make them think that they are doing well, and are prosperous.—Wingate E. Gibbs, Glenburn, Penobscot Co., Me.

Commercially there are greater opportunities for money-making in New England today than anywhere else in the country.

The soil is not worn out, the market is close at hand.—J. H. Hale, Hartford County, Ct.

Many a farmer lad in Boston working for ten to twelve dollars per week, out of which must come his room rent, board and washing, has often wished he was back on the farm. I have had them say to me, "The farm was not the worst place, and I would like to be there." I surely believe if they could or would return to the country home and grow fruits they would be much happier, and I know they would not work near so hard.—A. Warren Patch, Suffolk County, Mass.

Soil Analysis Deceptive.

The first question that suggests itself to the average mind is that of plant food. Is there plenty of available plant food? It is supposed by many that this question can be readily answered by a chemical analysis; but as yet the chemists do not feel that their analysis gives a satisfactory answer to the question.

The plant food in a soil may be divided into that portion which becomes dissolved during the growth of the crop, and that which does not. The principal problem in soil analysis has been to find a solvent which would dissolve the materials in the proportion in which they are dissolved by the plants.

It is comparatively easy to make a complete analysis of the soil; but such an analysis gives but little information as to the amount of materials that a plant can take from the soil; and while many solvents have been tried with the hope that the amounts of food shown would correspond with the growth of crops on the soil, a satisfactory solvent has not yet been found.

Another reason for this unsatisfactory

condition is that the weight of material removed from an acre of soil by one crop is so small in comparison with the weight of the soil on an acre to a depth of two or three feet as to lie within the limits of error of analysis. Of two soils one might contain enough soluble for, say a crop of wheat, and the other not enough and yet the analysis is practically the same.

Even the amounts of potash, phosphoric acid or nitrogen which are usually added per acre in fertilizers if disseminated through the first two feet of the soil would scarcely show on analysis and yet we know that they show a marked effect on the yield of the crop.—J. D. Tintley.

The Sheep Situation.

Speaking of the right methods for a prosperous sheep industry, Mortimer Levering, secretary of the National Wool Growers Association, makes the following points:

Avoidance of inflation and over-speculation.

Breeding with the object of securing two crops of maximum value annually.

Continuation of cultivation of the American nation's estate.

His prognostication summarized is:

That the 1906 wool clip may be sold at twenty-four to twenty-five cents per pound without risk.

That no drop in the price of wool is likely until the growing clip has gone into consumption.

That further inflation of values will eventually cause loss.

That the danger point in a speculative sense has been reached.

That the industry cannot continue prosperous on a wool basis alone.

Jersey Island Farming.

The average size of the farms is about 45 acres. The Island of Jersey not only has a population of fifty-five thousand, but a visiting population of forty thousand to fifty thousand yearly. It is a great summer resort for France as well as England. Now then if you can imagine a farm of ten thousand acres feeding—almost entirely—a population of fifty-five thousand islanders and entertaining yearly forty to fifty thousand visitors, and at the same time exporting between \$3,000,000 and \$4,000,000 worth of farm products yearly, you have something of an idea of what this little island is capable of doing in the farming line. I say something of an idea, no one really knows how much they do produce as there are no records excepting of produce exported. The principal imports are meat and grain. To an American it seems as if we did not know the A. B. C.'s of agriculture in this country as compared with the farmers of this little island.

THEIR PLOWS.

Instead of being built as all American plows are with very slanting mould boards—with a view of making them light of draft—are just the reverse, the mould boards of these island plows are almost at right angles to the beam, at least I should say to guess at it that they were at an angle less than forty-five degrees to the line of draft. The plowing season is one of great importance, and farmers change work with each other as no one farmer has horses enough to do his own plowing.

There is a man at each plow and a driver besides that at each corner or turning, there is a man who spades up the ground to the required depth where the plow begins to run shallow. They usually plow lengthwise of the field and carry the furrow across the ends. Other men follow the last plow and knock to pieces with a fork every lump of earth that is left on the surface.

After it requires ten horses and eight to ten men and boys to do a bit of plowing. But when it is done the soil is so thoroughly pulverized that the whole seed bed is like a loosely deposited ash heap, it is not only plowed, but harrowed and pulverized like ground grain to the very bottom of the furrow. No one puts foot upon it until it is planted.

THOROUGH WORK.

To an American who is accustomed to select plows that win at plowing contests because of doing the best work with the lightest draft, these ungainly rootling machines look behind the times. But when you come to think of it, you begin to realize that the most scientifically constructed plow as to draft may do the most useless work, you begin to think our American plows are not plowing at all, but instead are just turning a furrow of earth upside down with hardly a break in it. The soil hardly knows that anything has happened to disturb it. Is this plowing? I ask you, young gentlemen, to think this question over carefully and perhaps you will come to the conclusion that possibly that money you spend on a plow is not well spent.

Farming is less varied in Vermont than in the other Eastern States. Aside from Maine, possibly, market gardening and small fruit culture on any extensive scale are rarely seen, though around its larger towns and small cities of the State such enterprises pay the investor.

At West Cornwall I noticed that O. A. Field on retiring from his large farm had started at the village a fine, well screened bed of ginseng which he had just put to sleep under its natural cover of rotten wood. Here also H. E. Taylor does quite a good business in raising apples, small fruits and garden truck in general.

Veal calves, milch cows and other live stock are shipped from various points in Vermont for the Boston market by rail. The old style drove business is generally done.

But at Pawlet, W. C. Mason starts several drives of cows for western Massachusetts, having lately moved about three hundred head. He drives them across the lower part of the State to the Connecticut river, then down the valley in Massachusetts through Franklin and Hampshire counties, selling to farmers on the road that wish stock to feed during the winter months.

H. M. Powers.

Measuring Grass Lands in the Field.

It seems curious that, while most farmers put their best measures upon their grass lands in summer, the one is different with regard to chemical measures, as is by far the

larger number of farmers apply these in the spring. While this is, of course, right as far as regards topdressing of ammonical manures, where some of the fertilizing manures, which is easily dissolved, would have a chance of being washed away during heavy floods, caused by the melting of the snow, the same argument does not apply to phosphatic manures such as superphosphate, bone or basic slag, it being admitted by all practical farmers that these manures require considerable time to assimilate with the soil, there being required four or even five months before the benefit of any real benefit is derived.

I think I have now sufficiently accounted for the ability of the island farmers to grow such immense crops and to keep such a great number of animals on such a small acreage. Raising larger crops enabled the farmers to keep more stock. Keeping more stock enable them to raise larger crops. That's the story of successful agriculture everywhere in the world. The great mistake it seems to me of the farmers of New England is in selling so much hay and grain and keeping so little stock.—F. S. Peir, Kennebec County, Me.

Livestock in Vermont.

The sheep and the horse are commanding renewed attention throughout the State. Although the Morgan horse will always be



THE LARGEST PRIVATE APPLE STORAGE HOUSE IN NEW ENGLAND.

Dimensions, 40x100, with a capacity of 12,000 barrels of apples. Property of E. Cyrus Miller, Hillside Farm, Haydenville, Mass. See article "Hillside Fruit Farming."

claimed as one of Vermont's best producers, yet now as oxen are little used a grade horse of some eleven hundred to fourteen hundred pounds weight seems to be the sort wanted and now being bred. Such a first-class stallion of Morgan and Hambletonian blood M. S. Hasbrook has at Benson.

Speaking of horses brings to mind I. N. Case of Brandon, formerly of Whoosic, Vt., who by his sweepstakes winnings this season has with his young trotter surprised the West.

The many friends of Mr. Case, and they include all of his acquaintances, congratulate him on his financial success this season, all the more so because he is an all-round farmer and has just bought the Watson stock farm at Benson, including, with its extensive acres and numerous horses, a fine herd each of Ayrshire and Normandy dairy cattle, also a flock of Hampshire sheep. Mr. Case is further to be congratulated on the fact that Mrs. Case and his sons are enthusiastic managers of the neat stock.

The Normandy cattle, of which they have one of the best of the very few herds in the whole country, are a large, hardy breed, combining good beef and dairy points; cattle of docile disposition and easy keepers. If these are not the cows with which crossing with the buffalo has been tried, their style would seem to suggest them as good subjects for the experiment.

In the whole State I find no large flocks of sheep, the main point of late years being to raise some pure-blooded Merinos for breeding purposes to ship. Yet the present price of wool and meat tend to the growth of more and larger flocks. Information is also wanted on the goat industry, the land for which would seem to be cheap and plenty in northeastern Vermont.

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This opinion is derived not from scientific knowledge, but from practical observation of land treated, whereby it has been easy to obtain the knowledge necessary to prove the above arguments, and any farmer can prove the same. If he will try the experiment I am sure he will find it equally beneficial to put phosphatic and potassium manures on in autumn as it is to put on farmyard manure at that season of the year.

What holds good for one, holds good for the other, and the reason is obvious. The manure put on in autumn is dissolved by the rain or snow, and undergoes a chemi-

cal change, admitted to be necessary by scientists.

Not being a scientist, I will not attempt to explain the why and the therefore, but common sense teaches that such a change requires time; when it is accomplished spring has arrived, and the manure has not washed out of the soil, but is ready to be taken up at once by the grass plant when required, and this is regained in one year in one year's crop, a large proportion of the outlay, which would under the present system of spring manuring be lost for the time being, and not be recovered to any great extent until the following year.

WHAT IS REQUIRED.

is to have the manure ready to be taken up when the plant is ready to take it, just in the case of a beast—you prepare him before hand by putting him forward until he is ready to make use of artificial food.

By adopting a similar method, most benefit is derived from phosphatic manures by applying them before the plant. There are other arguments in favor of autumn manuring, one especially in case of farmyard manure, being this protection given, if hard frosts set in before the snow comes; and again, farmers have more time to put on the manure than in the spring, and the hauling is also for easier. Many and many are the complaints made year after year, with regard to the disappointing results of spring manuring, and yet farmers do not take heed, and having put on their artificial late in spring wonder at poor results, and often blame the manure for the bad results.

It is always best to buy these in small quantities and test them before laying in a quantity. This, however, is not always practicable and the next best thing is to rely upon the testimony or the experience of some responsible party. Even this may be misleading, as conditions are not always the same and some are not so readily apparent. In case nothing definite can be learned concerning the new feed except through the manufacturer or agent, it is wise to stick to the standard known brand or articles.—T. L. Mairs, State College, Centre County, Pa.

Care of Carriages.

The following instructions are given by an experienced carriage builder in reference to the care of fine carriages: Freshly varnished carriages should be washed frequently and exposed to the air in the shade and should not be covered until the varnish has become hard. Mud allowed to dry upon fresh varnish will leave spots, and exposure to ammonia will destroy fresh varnish. Plenty of water should be used, and great care taken that it is not driven into the body of the carriage, to the injury of the lining. For the body panels a large, soft sponge must be used, and when saturated sponged over the panels, and thus, after the flowing down of the water, the dirt will be softened and run off harmlessly. Care should be taken to wipe the surface dry with soft chamois leather. Never use the same sponge and chamois for panels which are used for running gear. Never use soap on varnished surfaces and only take off the grease and dirt around the hubs and axles.

POTASH AND PHOSPHATE.

Experiments have been made of measuring grass and clovers, with occasional admixtures of some of the natural grasses, and the objects arrived at were: (1.) To discover what, if any, quantity of potash could most profitably be included in a complete hay measure. (2.) To compare the relative efficiency of calcined and superphosphate as sources of phosphoric acid for hay crops. (3.) To compare sulphate of ammonia and nitrate of soda as sources of nitrogen. (4.) More particularly to discover what advantages might be derived from employing a mixture of these

Dairy.

Expert Home Butter Making.
To begin with, have the best cows possible for butter making. My preference is the Jersey. See that they are well fed and kept clean. In winter, every precaution must be taken to secure cleanliness in every respect, as milk takes odors quickly.

GET THE BEST CREAM SEPARATOR in the market, and keep it clean. Cool the cream each time and set it away to ripen, stirring it when more is added. Having got the cream in best possible condition for churning, proceed to add the cream with boiling water, then cool it with fresh water. Put in your cream at the right temperature, 60°, and color with some standard butter color, if needed. Churn with a steady, regular movement and not too fast.

With the best care, it will be found that this business is easier in summer than in winter weather, partly because grass butter comes easier, and partly because of the higher and more uniform temperature. Fifteen to thirty minutes in summer and thirty to forty-five minutes in winter will generally bring the butter all right.

A GREAT POINT.

is not to over churn the butter. I well remember when a child hearing them call out, "The butter has come, we'll gather it," and it was in huge lumps. My method is to churn till the butter is in granular form; till it is only as big as grains of wheat, then stop, for it is done.

FURTHER.

I have two objects in view; first to keep it in that form, to keep all those little grains entirely apart, till the butter is thoroughly washed, and next, to bring it together after it is washed. There is only one thing that will keep the grains from adhering, and that is cold. Have the coldest water you can get; ice water in summer. Having drawn off the buttermilk, pour on enough cold water to well cover the butter, and then work the churn very slowly for a minute. Draw off the water, and pour on more, and if necessary repeat again, till every trace of milk has been removed, and water runs off clear. If properly managed, the butter will have been washed as if it were so much shot, and will not have adhered at all, but will lie in the churn, looking like yellow wheat, a beautiful sight. In warm weather, I lift it out in this state, but in very cold weather I pour on some more water at 60° to 65°, and let it stand a few moments. Then drain and take out on the worker or into the bowl.

SALTING AND WORKING.

It will be still in grains, just right to salt and work. Use the best salt. If not fine, sift it, and also don't oversalt. Work it evenly into the butter. Half an ounce to the pound is my rule for my family, as we like the sweet butter flavor better than salt. For packed butter use three-quarters, or even a whole ounce to the pound; but for print only half an ounce to the pound.

Work the butter no more than is necessary to get it into a solid lump of even texture and color throughout. If not worked enough, it will be streaky, while overworking will break the grain.

PRINTING.

Now the butter is ready to pack or print. Above all things avoid the practice of some people of letting it stand over night. When it is cold it is a trouble to get it at the right temperature. If necessary, you can leave it a couple of hours, to let the salt dissolve, and then make up, but be sure to keep it at the same temperature. Scald all butter utensils with water that is actually boiling, and rub well with salt. Next, plunge into cold water and leave to soak for a while. I like to dip the butter print into brine and some keep it in brine when not in use. Butter will stick to the print if not properly taken care of, and then there is no remedy but to begin again. Wrap each print in nice butter paper and fold it under the bottom. Wet the paper, or dip the print sides and bottom into water or brine, and the butter will not stick to the paper. I like the five-pound, oblong butter box. I never use the round box.

PACKING BUTTER.

In June I had orders for packed butter. I wet the jars inside with strong brine, and was very particular to press the butter down firmly, so as not to have any air inside. I filled the jars within an inch of the top, and spread thickly with salt and covered with butter paper. I kept it in my cellar and shipped it late in the fall. It proved to be very nice and I received more orders. I never use sugar or saltpetre in butter, but it has a sweet, delicious taste.

MRS. E. M. CHAMBERLIN.
Windham County, Vt.

Dairy Bulls.

For several years past some valuable experiments have been carried on in Germany to show the effects of different dairy bulls upon the milk-producing qualities of the offspring. In a recent lecture Professor Hanson of Bonn said on this subject that more care is usually devoted in ascertaining the antecedents of the milk which is evident from his portraits, and was especially to be noted in old age. It may be conjectured that the migration of these Dutch Jews to England fell within a period not very distant from the death of Spinoza in 1675. On his mother's side he was of French Huguenot descent, and his maternal ancestors having settled in London as engravers and paper makers conformed to the Established Church. His mother, we are told, taught her six children, of whom John Henry was the eldest, a "Modified Calvinist," and they were expected to go through the spiritual process known as "conviction of sin," to be followed in due course by "conversion." Newman early became familiar with the King James version of the Bible, and, indeed, he was credited with knowing the Sacred Scriptures by heart. He was a precocious and imaginative boy, and he grew up in a distinctly reduced English home, but there ran through it a current of intellectual emotion which left its mark on the future of the Cardinal, and his two brothers, Francis, a brilliant scholar, who lost his faith, an Orthodox creed, and became a socialist, as did also Charles Robert, who was popular to the verge of insanity. Of John Henry's religious life there is an abundant and apparently impartial record in this volume, and of his literary work and triumphs there is also an appreciative and extended mention, closing with this tribute to his rare merits as a writer: "Letters, stories, sermons, belong to the full description of a man whose language, always sincere, was wrought up little by little to a finish and a refinement, a strength and subtlety, thrown into the forms of eloquence, beyond which no writer of English prose has gone."

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Literature.

A history that is concise and at the same time leaves no important detail untouched is "Italy: Her People and Their Story," by Augusta Hale Gifford. It is a companion volume to "Germany: Her People and Their Story," by the same author, and it recalls in a simple and interesting style the history of Italy from its legendary days and the foundation of Rome down to the time of Victor Emmanuel III. Modern

Italy is treated in part second of the volume, and it contains much unacknowledged matter gathered by Mrs. Gifford during her residence in Italy, and is now presented to the public for the first time. The book is no dry, historical narrative dealing solely with bare facts and figures, but a connected story as well suited for general reading as it is for a work of reference, the accuracy of which cannot be gainsaid. It betrays an amount of patient research which reflects great credit on the author as a conscientious worker in a field that had been too long neglected. She is, by the way, the sister of Senator Eugene Hale of Maine, and the wife of George Gifford, who has been for many years consul for the United States at Basle, Switzerland. The text is clear, correct and forcible, and it is reinforced by fine reproductions of famous portraits and paintings. It will become a standard work (Boston: Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Company, with imprint of Lothrop Publishing Company. Price, \$1.40 net. Postage, \$1.50.)

THE REIGN OF GUILT.

Under the above title we have a series of forcible essays by David Graham Phillips on Plutocracy and Democracy. The author points to the evils of the former and the benefits to be derived from the latter, and he comes to the logical conclusion that the only watchword for the new day is Democracy. (New York: James Pott & Co. Price, \$1.00.)

HELEN GRANT.

The third volume in the Helen Grant series is entitled "Helen Grant at Aldred House," and it is one of the best books by Amanda M. Douglass that has been given to juvenile readers. In it the heroine resumes her studies which had been interrupted by the death of her father. Her advance from girlhood to womanhood is portrayed with great truthfulness, and at the end of the story she is prepared for college, and pauses to consider whether she will follow further an educational career or devote herself immediately to making a home. This interesting stage in an interesting story will please young readers of the gentler sex. The book is as bright and clear as a dollar just from the mint. (Boston: Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Company, with imprint of Lee & Shepard. Price, \$1.25.)

SPORTING SKETCHES.

Under the modest title of "Sporting Sketches," Elwin Sandy furnishes a wealth of material concerning hunting and fishing that is full of the spirit and freedom of out-door life. At the same time, it furnishes a great variety of information concerning the denizens of the streams and waterways that are full of the freshness of nature, interweaving with his descriptions, now and then, a connected story that will satisfy with its glowing vitality and vigor of narration. Many of these sketches are reprinted from Owing, which the author considers the best of sporting magazines, and they are one and all rifle compositions. They make one long to escape from the dryness and artificiality of existence in town and city into the regions where one can wander with rod and gun at one's own sweet will. In the lore of the wild Mr. Sandy is past master, and his book is as inspiring as a breeze from the uplands of the moorland. (New York: The Macmillan Company. Price, \$1.75.)

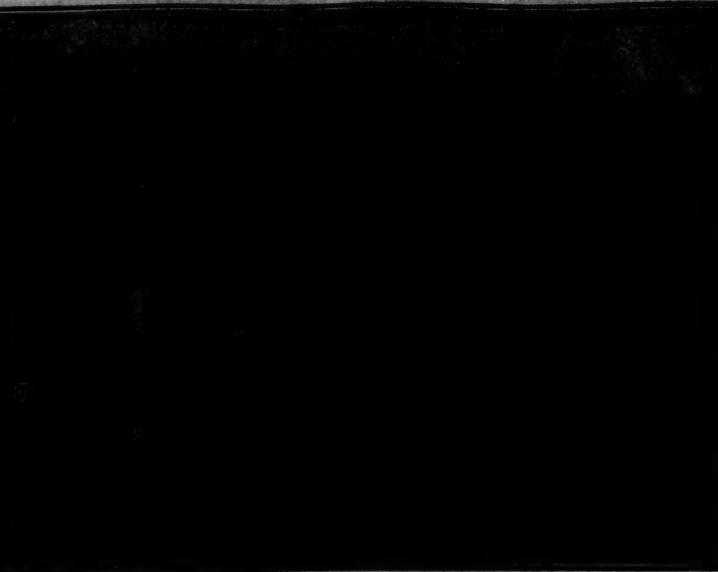
CARDINAL NEWMAN.

The second issue of the series of Literary Lives, edited by W. Robertson Nicoll, LL. D., is "Cardinal Newman," by William Barry, D. D., and it carries on the idea of the editor and publishers in furnishing a biographical and critical study of the subject. There is no feature of interest connected with the career of John Henry Newman, and of the influences that finally landed him from a sea of unrest into the Roman Catholic Church, omitted in these pages. The general reader will be no doubt surprised to learn from this biography that in an earlier generation the family had spelled its signature Newmann, that it was understood to be of Dutch origin, and that its real descent was Hebrew. "The talent for music, calculation and business, the untiring energy, legal acumen and dislike of speculative metaphysics which were conspicuous in John Henry bear out this interesting genealogy. A large part of his character and writings will become intelligible if we keep it in mind. That his features had a strong Jewish cast is evident from his portraits, and was especially to be noted in old age. It may be conjectured that the migration of these Dutch Jews to England fell within a period not very distant from the death of Spinoza in 1675." On his mother's side he was of French Huguenot descent, and his maternal ancestors having settled in London as engravers and paper makers conformed to the Established Church. His mother, we are told, taught her six children, of whom John Henry was the eldest, a "Modified Calvinist," and they were expected to go through the spiritual process known as "conviction of sin," to be followed in due course by "conversion." Newman early became familiar with the King James version of the Bible, and, indeed, he was credited with knowing the Sacred Scriptures by heart. He was a precocious and imaginative boy, and he grew up in a distinctly reduced English home, but there ran through it a current of intellectual emotion which left its mark on the future of the Cardinal, and his two brothers, Francis, a brilliant scholar, who lost his faith, an Orthodox creed, and became a socialist, as did also Charles Robert, who was popular to the verge of insanity. Of John Henry's religious life there is an abundant and apparently impartial record in this volume, and of his literary work and triumphs there is also an appreciative and extended mention, closing with this tribute to his rare merits as a writer: "Letters, stories, sermons, belong to the full description of a man whose language, always sincere, was wrought up little by little to a finish and a refinement, a strength and subtlety, thrown into the forms of eloquence, beyond which no writer of English prose has gone."

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The Dispensary attached to the Home is productive of great good. All sick cases of a local nature are taken care of in the institution with the assistance of the visiting physician, and those of more serious character receive hospital treatment.

Donations of cast-off garments, hats, shoes, etc., or other articles for wear are much needed at the Home and will be sent for upon notification.



AN AMERICAN PRIZE WINNING JERSEY.

Ella Golden. One of the winners at the St. Louis Exposition.

The Golden Chronicle.

At the corner of Davis street and Harrison avenue, Boston, there is an institution, often observed by the passer-by, which does not encourage pauperism; on the contrary, uplifts by furnishing work instead of money to the unfortunate unemployed who are worthy of assistance and are not professional beggars. This is the Boston Industrial Home, which was established in 1877, and enjoys the distinction of being the first organized effort in this city for providing a refuge for indigent persons where employment was the basis of relief. It was started by the Rev. William Bradley on a modest scale in a building owned by the Old Colony Railroad Company, and later the work of furnishing lodgings and meals to the homeless for services rendered in sawing and splitting staves was continued on Tremont street near Castle street.

The effort took definite and permanent shape at the close of the Moody and Sancy revival in 1877, when the Rev. A. J. Gordon came actively interested in it, and, until his lamented death, was president of its board of directors. During the year mentioned the work, having outgrown its somewhat narrow quarters, was removed to its present location.

Those who have met with misfortune and are anxious to reform are always welcome at the house, which is truly a home for those who are without a shelter. The applicant has only to exhibit a disposition to labor for his daily bread and display a purpose to secure his moral improvement to enjoy the benefits of the institution.

Cleanliness is insisted upon, and in order to further this desirable condition, baths with modern improvements are provided for the inmates. A wood yard tests the industry of the men who seek aid, and the sale of the kindlings prepared there under the direction of Mr. D. J. Hayes adds to the needed income necessary for carrying on the work, which is endorsed by leading clergymen and philanthropists as the best possible method of elevating those who have fallen into the depths of adversity through yielding to temptation and through human weakness.

In this Home worthy people who apply for admission are received regardless of race, creed or color. It is strictly non-sectarian, though it contains a chapel capable of seating two hundred people, where religious meetings are held and free entertainments of various descriptions are given throughout the winter months. It has also a spacious reading-room and a dining-room, where good, wholesome food is served in the most appetizing manner, and indeed, there is an atmosphere of comfort about the whole institution that creates a homelike feeling that makes the inmates self-respecting and desirous of taking a worthy place in the community. Its educational influence is also potent in developing true dignity of character.

The twenty-seventh annual report of the Home shows that it is conducted with judicious economy and foresight. The president says that the Home in its entire history has never been in better condition for the work it is endeavoring to carry on, in so far as repairs and equipment are concerned, than it is at the present time, and the superintendent remarks that he does not presume to estimate the harvest of good results accruing from the ministrations of the work for the preceding year, but that the clean appearance of the inmates, the absence of turmoil and strife among them and their uniform observance of the rules indicate in an uncertain manner the virtue and practicality of the methods applied.

A man who is among the ranks of the new rich was questioned about a coming-out party which his wife gave for his daughter, and he described the floral decorations in glowing colors.

"But," said the Saunterer, who was being bored by the grandiloquent remarks, "were there many present?"

"Well, not crowd," was the reply, "but we got a whole houseful full of regrets, and that showed that we were in the social swim."

He will know more about society later on.

The Saunterer invited a cousin from the country to the theatre the other night to witness the acting of a play which was supposed to contain an impressive moral lesson. It was a rainy evening and his guest placed the handsome silk umbrella she had carried to the playhouse under the orchestra chair in which she sat. At the conclusion of the performance she forgot to remove it from its resting place, but she had only gone a few steps up the aisle when she missed it and returned. It was gone. How could it have disappeared in so short a time? It was a mystery, for the people about her looked honest, and most of them had been weeping over the woes of a hero who was temped to steal.

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Poultry.

Silver Penciled Wyandottes.
This new variety has the beautiful silver gray plumage of the Dark Brahma, and the shape, rose comb, and clean yellow leg of the Wyandotte.

Since their admission to the standard they have grown in popularity and the improvement in quality from year to year has been very marked. They are heavy layers of brown eggs and a most beautiful fowl to have about your lawn to look at.

Turkeys a Paying Crop.

There is no kind of live stock that will return so large a profit to the successful producer as will poultry, and no kind of poultry is more profitable than turkeys when properly handled. The fact that turkeys will, from the time they are six weeks old until winter sets in, gain the greater part of their entire living from bugs, grasshoppers and waste grain that they pick up in their wandering over the range, assure their existence through this period at little or no cost to the grower. In other words, they may be termed self-sustaining foragers where they have sufficient range.

The chance for profit in the production of turkeys is gradually improving as a result of a more general use of the flesh. They are now used not only for roasting but to an increasing extent as cold cuts for sandwiches and for salads, and large numbers of pouls are used for broilers. Late-hatched pouls do well for this purpose, and while there cannot be much opportunity for growing pouls to maturity when they are hatched late in the season, they may be sold as broilers at a good profit. No dish is more valued in our large cities at the present time than the broiled pouls.

Turkeys that are hatched early in the spring should grow to weigh from fourteen to twenty pounds by Thanksgiving. When feeding turkeys for market it must be remembered that they will sell for considerably more per pound than can be obtained for hogs or cattle, while the actual food costs of turkey meat is but little more than for hogs or cattle. It will always pay well to give to growing turkeys all the grain they can eat. Keep them growing from start to finish, and have them ready for the Thanksgiving market, when prices are usually the best. This may be accomplished quite easily with all the early broods, provided they are properly and liberally fed, as the fall weather begins to remove their natural food supply of worms, bugs, seeds and herbs of all kinds. In feeding for market, the end most desired is complete growth and the greatest possible weight by Thanksgiving time. The records of years show the highest value for market turkeys to have been reached during the last week of November. While the demand is not quite so brisk at Christmas time, the prices are almost as high.—T. F. McGraw.

Ready for the Table.

The head and neck are removed, and we start by taking the latter off close to the shoulders, the carcass lying breast downwards the while. The skin shd. be pinched up a bit so that an inch or so is left when the neck is off. A broad piece of skin should be left on the underneath side. These are used to cover the stamp when the bird goes into the oven. The crop must be removed; it peels away quite easily, and a forefinger inserted into the cavity and the intestines loosened as much as possible. The bird is then turned tail upwards, and a cut made just under the tail joint, and above the vent. The latter is cut out without dividing the bowel. Through the space made the whole of the intestines will come out clean at one pull, if the loosening from the other end has been properly done; the interior may or may not want washing out. Next the carcass is tied with string (skewers are not used now), and it is ready for roasting or broiling. The liver, heart and gizzard should, of course, be cooked with it. Poulterers when they draw fowls often keep these delicacies, unless reminded to send them. It should have been added that the breastbone is usually broken, or, rather, lowered, as the bird looks meatier when the breastbone is not so prominent. With the point of a knife or skewer inserted through the vent break the flat of the breastbone just under the front of the keel. Then give the breastbone a hard tap from the outside, and down it sinks. C. D. L.

Points from an Egg-Laying Contest.
The latest egg-laying contest is just concluded at the Kansas Experiment Station. The leading breeds were represented, each with a pen of a male and six pullets. The methods were those ordinarily employed, the idea being to bring out comparative results such as might be obtained by an experienced poultryman. The usual mixtures of grain and soft feed were given, also vegetable food, oyster shells, grit and meat meal, but no fresh meat, pepper, patent foods or other stimulants. During the twelve months of the contest the pen of White Leghorns laid 885 eggs; the Rose Comb White Leghorns 828, laying however, a larger proportion of their eggs in the winter than the single comb pen. The American Reds laid 820 eggs and showed the best winter egg record. The White Wyandottes laid 798, the Buff Wyandottes 764, Barred Plymouth Rocks 619, Light Brahmans 539. The Plymouth Rocks were not fairly represented, the females being yearlings while those of the other breeds were pullets. The Brahmans were as usual slow in developing, but continued to lay well except in spring. Probably for a longer time their relative showing would have been better.

Practical Poultry Points.

Eggs being seventy-four per cent. water, the hens need plenty of this article every hour in the day.

Peas and beans are a good, all-round food. Oats furnish gimp, they make a horse trot, a hen cackle and a rooster crow to beat the ears. The food contributes to the albumen in the white.

Mash composed of one hundred pounds cornmeal, one hundred pounds wheat middlings and fifty pounds wheat bran, charcoal as a regulator, if needed, tea enough of alfalfa clover to mix what they will eat up clean in fifteen or twenty minutes. No succulent food beats clover.

Have plenty of oyster-shell grit and a dish of slaked lime should be set nearby.

South Carolina rock is a good lime extermi- nator and disinfectant. The hens have it to burrow in, and with the dressing it makes a valuable fertilizer.

Kerosene combined with carbolic acid is used every Saturday to clean the roosting houses.

Breeding is in its infancy, and the end is not yet.—Henry Van Dreser, Schobaria, County, N. Y.

horticultural.

Hillside Fruit Farming.

I observe that Editor H. S. Gare of Northampton as he nears his four score years has an increasing fondness for fruit culture on his own premises and that of others.

His report of a visit to the Miller orchards at Haydenville recently, as below from the local paper, includes some good hints for apple growers:

"There are twelve hundred trees in this orchard in bearing condition. The principal orchard is on the top of the big hill, southwest of the village. The land is a rich loam, especially adapted to the growth of apple trees, but to make sure that the trees do their best large quantities of stable manure are annually spread under and around the orchard. It is this treatment that, in the opinion of Mr. Miller, causes the orchard to bear every year. Fertilized to a tree is what grain is to a horse—with it he flourishes, without it he famishes. The Miller's estimate a crop of about two thousand barrels this year.

"A ride through this orchard convinces one that it is well managed. Every tree is carefully trimmed every year—suckers, dead limbs and useless branches are all removed. Why? Plain enough. A tree has just so much productive power, and no more; confine that power to as much bearing wood as can easily carry and you get large and perfect fruit; spread it over more branches than it can properly nourish, and you get, of course, inferior results.

"The trees in this orchard are set forty feet apart in the rows, the rows thirty-five feet apart. This gives the trees ample room for growth and the fruit full exposure to the sun. The bearing trees are from fifteen to twenty-five years old and are not yet fully matured. It will take about ten years more to bring them to their full maturity.

"The Millers are still setting more trees. This year they have set about 150 and are preparing land to set one thousand more. They expect to ultimately have from three thousand to four thousand trees set, believing there is more profit in orcharding than in any other branch of farming. The Gravenstein trees which bore another kind of fruit have all been rooted out and baled in sets.

"About sixty head of stock are kept on this farm, and twenty-two cows are now being milked. The farm is in a high state of cultivation, and probably is the best farm in Williamsburg. J. H. Hale, the Connecticut peach man, says that this Miller orchard is the best apple orchard in New England.

"It requires great physical ability to run such a farm, and brains, too. The Millers, father and son, E. F. and E. Cyrus, are great workers, and early and late they may be found on the farm, attending to every detail. Of course with such agencies in operation success finds a resting place on this Hillside farm."

With the photographs of the Miller apple storehouse, which I enclose, Mr. Miller writes: "The views will illustrate better, perhaps, than any others the extent and the expected future of our apple business. We aim to have not necessarily the largest on the coast in New England, for J. H. Hale, the big peach man, informs me that he has just planted fifteen thousand apple trees, but the best orchard. Our location is ideal; within a stone's throw of station and barrel factory, and near a village where there is always an abundance of help available. We are now cutting down some of our oldest trees which have outlived their usefulness or have grown so high in the air that it is not good orcharding to retain them. If the farmers or fruit growers would cut down one-half their trees their fruit would be better and they would realize more net per barrel."

The storehouse holds twelve thousand barrels. So convenient are the arrangements that a carload a day may be shipped easily.

Mr. Miller further writes Nov. 14: "The photographs illustrate the exterior and interior of our apple storage house, the interior view having been taken at the time of sorting and packing our 1904 crop of apples. This building is 100x40 feet and is probably the largest private storage fruit house in New England, having a capacity of from ten thousand to twelve thousand barrels of apples, if the fruit is placed in barrels, and for many more than that if stored in bins or crates. The idea in building such an extensive house was not only to provide for our present crops, but also in anticipation of future needs, as we expect our maximum crop at some future time to equal the above-mentioned number of barrels."

ECONOMY IN PACKING AND SORTING

is a great factor in commercial orcharding of today, and we have planned to have all our operations conducted on that basis. The upper story of our storage is used for empty barrels, ladders and other orchard equipment, and the lower stories are left free for fruit when brought from the orchard. The building is not a frost proof structure, but can be readily made such when the time comes when we may deem it advisable.

OUR PLAN

at present is to sell direct to dealers before the coldest weather begins. All apples are sold f. o. b. cars at our station. If fruit were stored into the winter it would have to be shipped to commission dealers, and we have never yet felt willing to put ourselves into their hands.

Not but that there are many honest commission men, but in this method of disposal of fruit there are so many legitimate expenses and such chances for honest difference of opinion regarding sorting and packing that unless a grower can afford to take long chances he surely would better sell outright to the dealer, even at a lower price and let the other take the chances.

ONE SPECIALTY IS THE BALDWIN

apple, nothing else having been planted in our orchards for a number of years, although we have been urgently solicited to plant such varieties as Kings, Spys, Molton Red, Wealthy, Wagner and some other kinds. But we hold steadfastly to the old Baldwin as being the king of all apples, taking the length and breadth of the country into consideration, and it is the one apple that can be sold always in unlimited quantities.

AS TO THE OUTLOOK

for apple growing we are as optimistic as Mr. J. H. Hale, the great peach grower, who has lately branched out into apple culture on his Seymour (Ct.) plantation, putting out in the neighborhood of fifteen thousand trees of different varieties. The great point of encouragement for orchardists is the tremendous growth of our large cities and towns in this country and in the Old World and the growing popularity and increased use of the apple. Take New York city alone, within a comparatively few years it will have a population as great as the entire

American Colonies at the time of the American Revolution. I trust the hour may come when we may have a national Apple tree movement for which is being quite actively urged and advanced in the West and South, west at present, and has also received the favorable endorsement of the International Apple Shippers Association at their meeting at Put-in-Bay in August last. Visitors are always welcome at our orchards at any season of the year, by which plan of visiting we can always add to our store of knowledge along any line in which we may be interested.

H. M. POWELL,
Northampton, Mass.

Massachusetts State Board of Agriculture.

The Massachusetts State Board of Agriculture will hold its forty-third public winter meeting for lectures and discussions at Horticultural Hall, Worcester, Dec. 5 and 7. These meetings will be held annually and the lectures delivered printed in the annual report of the board. The programme prepared by the committee in charge is as up-to-date and attractive as any ever presented to an agricultural audience. Worcester being centrally located, a large audience of farmers, their families and others interested in agriculture is looked for.

For the opening session on the morning of Tuesday, Dec. 5, Henry M. Howard of West Newbury will speak on "Market Gardening." Mr. Howard is a graduate of the Massachusetts Agricultural College, and a very successful market-gardener, having built up a large and flourishing business in a very few years. He is sure to interest and instruct all who hear him.

In the afternoon George T. Powell, president of the Agricultural Experts Association, New York city, will speak on "The Soil: Importance of Its Character for the Culture of Fruits." Mr. Powell is one of the foremost horticultural experts of the country, and well qualified in every way to instruct an audience along these lines. For the evening lecture we have Dr. W. E. Powers, of Worcester, on "The Codling Moth." A ride through this orchard convinces one that it is well managed. Every tree is carefully trimmed every year—suckers, dead limbs and useless branches are all removed. Why? Plain enough. A tree has just so much productive power, and no more; confine that power to as much bearing wood as can easily carry and you get large and perfect fruit; spread it over more branches than it can properly nourish, and you get, of course, inferior results.

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"The Millers are still setting more trees. This year they have set about 150 and are preparing land to set one thousand more.

They expect to ultimately have from three thousand to four thousand trees set, believing there is more profit in orcharding than in any other branch of farming. The Gravenstein trees which bore another kind of fruit have all been rooted out and baled in sets.

"About sixty head of stock are kept on this farm, and twenty-two cows are now being milked. The farm is in a high state of cultivation, and probably is the best farm in Williamsburg. J. H. Hale, the big peach man, informs me that he has just planted fifteen thousand apple trees, but the best orchard. Our location is ideal; within a stone's throw of station and barrel factory, and near a village where there is always an abundance of help available. We are now cutting down some of our oldest trees which have outlived their usefulness or have grown so high in the air that it is not good orcharding to retain them. If the farmers or fruit growers would cut down one-half their trees their fruit would be better and they would realize more net per barrel."

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"About sixty head of stock are kept on this farm, and twenty-two cows are now being milked. The farm is in a high state of cultivation, and probably is the best farm in Williamsburg. J. H. Hale, the big peach man,

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN
A WEEKLY JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE

TELEPHONE NO. 2707 MAIN.

Lots of trouble in Russia, besides the consonants.

Pity the sailor prince is married. Many society ducks here would like to go home with the Drake.

Strangely enough young Mr. Hyde says he has hidden nothing, but it appears to us that he protests too much.

The fair land of Poland seems to have got up on its ear, but it is to be hoped that it will not make an ass of itself.

James Corbett, "Gentleman Jim," says that football is a brutal game. Having been in the prize ring he ought to know.

It was a male who was sent from New York to Lynn by mail. He couldn't speak English, but he got there just the same.

President Roosevelt is going to do all that he can to save Niagara. He believes, with Keats, that a thing of beauty is a joy forever.

Alice Roosevelt was not at the Prince's ball. Well, she cannot be everywhere, and she, no doubt, frequently says, "Give us a rest."

The ghosts of those who did not get into the Hall of Fame, like the reproachful spectres in "Macbeth," "ill probably stretch out to the crack of o' clock.

Life may be a prolongation of misery and a series of disillusionments, but it is a comrade that we do not like to give up. Hence we have centenarians.

Money has been tight, but a similar condition has prevailed elsewhere. Our politicians, for instance, have been intoxicated with their own eloquence.

The American newspapers are all right, according to Louis of Battenberg, commendation from a real prince is praise indeed, especially when it is Germane to the matter.

Norway decides that it wants a king instead of a president. There is one thing to be said in favor of this decision—it will prevent an upheaval every four years like we have in this country.

There is a famine in the shoe market in Chicago, but the big feet of the Chicago girls are still in evidence, and like the old-time New York belle, they are crying they're nothing to wear.

Everybody who visited the "Drake" had a swimming social time in New York harbor. Louis gave a princely entertainment to the social swells. Long may the wave is their appreciative exclamation.

If Japan should be brought into the Christian fold it might learn a lesson in brotherly love from our political speakers. Buddha, the holy and Benevolent, can't hold a candle to those who want office.

You never discover how much information you possess until you meet the statesman. Then you find that the other fellow does not know any more than you know yourself in spite of his assurance.

The turkey crop in Rhode Island is said to be large. Nevertheless, the prices for the Thanksgiving birds in Boston will be dropping up the last of the month. Little Rhody cannot now supply all the markets in the country.

The minister who sits down on theatrical amusements has nothing to say about the scandals sometimes retailed at church sewing circles. There is often a great deal of dramatic talk when the needle is plying for the heathen of Boorlooboo Ghu.

Prince Louis of Battenberg had nothing to say about New York politics, though he did dine with Mayor McClellan. In his case discretion was the better part of valor. He did not want to fight the Tammany tiger, though he had heard of the beast.

It is anything but Merriweather for the midshipman who killed one of his fellows in a stand-up fight at the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, and yet he was no more to blame than the chap who stood up against him. He appears to have been the victim of circumstances in a system of prize fighting that was winked at by the authorities. Foolish youth should not be punished for the mistakes of mature age. Remember that, Secretory Bonaparte.

No one knows for a moment that he intended to quote President Roosevelt incorrectly, and the latter gentleman's charge that he was misquoted by Mr. Whitney seems remarkable, considering the fact that others who were at the White House when the informal interview so much discussed took place put the same interpretation on Mr. Roosevelt's words as did Mr. Whitney.

The independent voter has, apparently, no standing in the caucuses. He has to call for either a Republican or a Democratic ballot. Every man does not want to declare himself for one of two parties at the polls, and some modification of the present manner of obtaining ballots will have to be decided upon in order to meet the wishes of all citizens. It may be said that one can carry a past or obliterate the name and substitute another, but that is not to the point, as we have indicated above.

Hay and corn seem to have proved the most satisfactory of the staple crops in central New England this year, while potatoes were the crop nearest approaching a failure. In regard to potatoes it is a suggestive fact that many growers report sprayed potatoes a success, while in northern Maine, where spraying against blight and rot is a part of the approved method of leading growers, the crop is considered large and profitable. Spraying is a kind of crop insurance which sometimes prevents big losses.

President Lucius Tuttle's address on freight rates at the 1904 monthly dinner of the Boston Boot and Shoe Club, on Thursday evening, was a masterful discussion of the subject. It showed conclusively that he had thoroughly familiarized himself with every detail of the matter under consideration, and that Secretary Taft was wrong in his conclusions regarding President Roosevelt's railroad policy. So able an exposition from a practical man of long railroad

experience in an official position fully entitled President Tuttle to the vote of thanks which he so unanimously received at the conclusion of his clear and cogent remarks.

The general produce business of Chicago is estimated at \$315,000,000 for the year ending with October. The annual business appears to have just about doubled during the past ten years. Similar figures have not been compiled for other cities, but the probabilities are that the country as a whole would show a great increase. The Department of Commerce and Labor at Washington declares that during the past five years there has been a rapid increase in the per capita consumptive capacity of workmen in almost every line of employment, a condition largely due to prosperity and advancing wages.

Apparently fearing a second ginseng craze, the department at Washington is making efforts to head off the attempt to introduce the culture of orris root. It is stated that the various advertisements along this line are entirely misleading. As a matter of fact, the total amount imported averages only about \$20,000 a year and there is no duty. Even in Italy, the country of principal production, the crop is not considered profitable to the growers, although produced at a much lower cost for labor than would be possible in this country. The department in no way encourages the culture of orris except in a purely experimental way, and it is not believed there is a chance to build up an industry in this country under present conditions.

Mr. Thomas W. Lawson's contribution of \$2000 to the fund for purifying the political atmosphere of New York city through the courts is in harmony with his constant desire and endeavor to reform abuses of every description. His characteristically liberal spirit is displayed in this action. It has ever been where the interests of the masses were concerned. He is always fearless in his hostile attitude toward corruption and graft, and he does not hesitate to smite those high in the financial and political world when he deems that they are interfering with the progress of fair dealing and good government. His independence is of the strenuous kind that seeks to secure for all citizens alike justice and liberty. If there were more men of his stamp there would be fewer rascals in power, and people would speedily come to their own.

The public winter meeting of the Massachusetts State Board of Agriculture seems likely to fully maintain its usual high standard, judging from the list of the leaders in agricultural progress who are scheduled to take part. It is also true that some of the best things are not on the programme. They will appear in the discussions, both in the hall and those held informally in the hotel parlors and elsewhere. These three day meetings really constitute a short course in special agriculture free to all, and the wonder of it is that there are some ambitious young farmers who have never attended even when the meetings have been held within convenient distance. This year's location, Worcester, is the most easily reached of all points, being situated on lines of all the three large railroad systems of New England, besides far reaching trolley road connections. The conditions, altogether, invite a record breaking attendance.

Free rural delivery costs the Government a great deal of money, and it is worth all it costs. But why should the postal authorities assume that it is rural delivery which causes the postoffice department to fall short of funds. The cities are given far more frequent and costly service than the country districts, even with the free delivery; the department hires special mail cars and pays outrageously high rents for them to the railroads. Salaries of employees are continually being increased. A man who found that payment of his just dues was interfering with his extravagant outlay in other directions would not reasonably blame his creditors for the shortage. The rural mail service was no more than the just due of the heavily taxed, but long-neglected farmers. The service should not only be kept up, but should be steadily improved and extended, even if the result should be to curtail the excessive postal profits of the railways.

The movement to place fuel alcohol on the untaxed list is arousing a somewhat unexpected opposition. In certain countries of Europe alcohol, after a treatment which renders it unfit for mixture with drinks, is allowed to be made without the revenue tax, thus affording a supply of cheap fuel of great use for domestic heating and lighting purposes, farm power, etc., besides affording a considerable market for potatoes from which the cheap alcohol is chiefly made. The proposition to establish a similar business in this country has aroused the opposition of manufacturers of certain articles in which taxed alcohol is now used. They have a kind of monopoly and fear the cheap alcohol would interfere with their business. The manufacturers of alcohol from wood are also interested, as the new source of alcohol would also interfere with their product. There are few arguments to be brought forward other than those of self-interest of such manufacturing concerns, and the interest of farmers is clearly in the direction of an enlarged market for certain agricultural products, and for a new, safe and cheap fuel, of special value to those who live at a distance from the supply of gas and electric light, and who do not like to use gasoline or other explosive liquids.

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The establishment of extensive colonies on a combination basis is practically new in this country, though we have had commercial endeavors that have come to nothing, and it remains to be seen whether the Lithuanians have enough business ability to carry out their somewhat expansive scheme. To be sure, in the early settlements of this country there were companies to forward them, but individual effort was not discouraged, and many preferred to follow their own way without the support of an association.

The advantage of a combination is, of course, the opportunity it furnishes for carrying out a project that would fail if it were attempted by a single person, and as the Lithuanian people are endowed with being prudent, industrious and economical, there is every reason to believe that their society will not fail to realize the hopes of its promoters. The New York Mail is of the opinion that the limit of practical individual settlements on the lands of the West has been reached, and that properly to exploit a forty-acre irrigated plot requires a capital of \$500, but through combination of a number of persons this may be done for less.

Irrigation of great tracts in the West, it tells us, will not of itself relieve the congestion in our cities, because a man who can raise only \$100 cannot make the start on irrigated land.

It is hardly to be expected that the example of the Chicago Lithuanians will be followed in Eastern cities, for it is doubtful if there are enough skilled workers in them of any nationality to join in helping to form a co-operative settlement, even if the irrigation laws favor the development of Western areas that have been parched with heat. It is rather an alluring prospect that is presented to the mind in considering that we may get rid of surplus populations by telling them to go West, but will they take our advice? Will they form societies for the purpose of following our example? Hardly. And, in the meanwhile, we have plenty of farms and townships that might be made productive, if people were not so fond of Metropolitan sights and sounds. Improvement should begin at home. Never-

be prevented in almost any site. On the other hand, if all doors and windows are left open, any kind of site is apt to freeze in Wisconsin winters. No amount of insulation and no number of dead air spaces will prevent freezing when the site is open at the top.

The Apple Average.

The apple business from its very nature is subject to wide variations for the reason that, unlike crops planted annually, the output cannot be quickly changed to suit the demand. Mother Nature chiefly decides whether the crop of this year or next year or the year after shall be a large, overabundant one, or small enough to create actual scarcity in the markets.

However the grower may feel in regard to the profits he is likely to cut down his good orchards. Neither, on the other hand, will his increased tree planting affect the supply until many years in the future, when the conditions may have changed which induced him to set the trees. The price of apples is something of a lottery any one year. They may be almost unsaleable or they may be the subject of brisk competition among the buyers at high prices.

In years of heavy production there always arises a host of newspaper writers who declare that the apple business is a failure done to death by Western competition, and so it does appear during such seasons. Other years, when the supply is short, there will be just as many prophets who will chant another song, asserting the gradual extinction of the commercial apple and urging everybody to plant more trees.

Both kinds of talk have been going on for at least half a century. The author of a leading agricultural work published in 1854 bewails therein the excess of apple orchards. Millions of trees have been planted since, but the apples sell higher than ever when the crop is short and times prosperous. To all appearances the future will be like the past. There will be more years of cheap apples, and likewise years when prices will soar. No patient, industrious grower need become discouraged over the average from year to year, neither is there much basis for hopes of fortune making in apple culture. It is simply a fairly good business prospect, promising well in the long run, but requiring good management and something more than "patience and trees" to insure success.

Commanding is the attitude of those who, like Mr. Miller of "Hilltop Farming," make sure of ideal conditions at the start, and then push steadily forward with their far-sighted plans for profitable orcharding. Those who succeed with apples are neither plungers nor quitters, but rather those who attempt only what they may reasonably expect to carry out well and then stick to it regardless of temporary conditions of the industry.

The Rat Nuisance.

Suggestions for killing rats are numerous. Probably no plan is so satisfactory as to keep half a dozen cats around the barns and farm buildings. The dog should be trained to let them alone and the cat should be given just enough food to keep them alert for more game. The drawback is that cats are liable to become fond of chickens, and some of them will need watching during the chicken season.

Terrier dogs are useful if the buildings are arranged that they can get at the rats under the floors. Where rats are extremely plenty a terrier will do good work, but in the long run, the patience and steady work of a cat will more thoroughly exterminate the rats.

Poison will kill quite a number of the rats, although many of them avoid it, but there is danger of other animals getting the poisoned food and the dead rats are liable to become a nuisance.

Traps are useful to a certain extent but will not exterminate the rats because there is always a certain per cent. of the rats which are too sharp-witted to be caught in this way. Ferrets have been tried with good success, but require some skill and attention in using them. A trained ferret and an experienced rat catcher in charge will often rid the premises in a short time, although at considerable expense. A large hungry, vigorous cat, after all, is the main reliance on the farm.

Bound for the West.

Co-operation on a large scale is proposed by the Lithuanians of Chicago. There are about ten thousand of them, and they have formed themselves into a society to settle a large amount of territory in the State of Washington, each member putting in \$100. This will not be a large drain on any person, but the combined payments will aggregate \$1,000,000, which will be devoted to creating farms and towns in the land chosen for the experiment in the Columbia River Valley.

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The advantage of a combination is, of course, the opportunity it furnishes for carrying out a project that would fail if it were attempted by a single person, and as the Lithuanian people are endowed with being prudent, industrious and economical, there is every reason to believe that their society will not fail to realize the hopes of its promoters. The New York Mail is of the opinion that the limit of practical individual settlements on the lands of the West has been reached, and that properly to exploit a forty-acre irrigated plot requires a capital of \$500, but through combination of a number of persons this may be done for less.

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Improvement should begin at home. Never-

theless the Lithuanians have our praises for trying to get out of Chicago.

Then and Now.

Our British cousins are to look upon the United States as a very wicked country when the subject of bribery is considered, and, indeed, it has many sins connected with this subject to answer for, but in the past England, the mother country, was none too scrupulous about the bribing of the electorate, according to the Nineteenth Century and The Argonaut. It is said that William Wilberforce, famous as a leader in the movement for the abolition of slavery in the English colonies, paid \$45,000 to the electors of Hull, the town where he was born. The usual price in Castle of a vote was \$100, and this among the constituents which returned Sir Robert Peel in 1800. The rate was advanced to \$200 when a sermon was preached against bribery, because the electors reasoned that if they were to be condemned eternally for taking the lesser sum, they might as well pocket the larger one, on the principle, we suppose, that one might as well be hung for a sheep as a lamb.

They had rather an ingenious way, too, of whipping the devil around the stump, for it was often the custom to pay to voters fancy prices for cheap articles, or to sell to them valuable ones for the proverbial song. In Sudbury, in an election in 1826, two cabbages were purchased from a green grocer by a candidate, and these succulent vegetables cost him fifty dollars, and in becoming the possessor of a plate of gooseberries through the same hand he depleted his wallet to the amount of \$125.

At great Marlow an elector was allowed to come into possession of a sow and a litter of nine pigs for just one penny, no more, no less. The great Sheridan, statesman, orator and dramatist, bought pigs for \$12 a quart during the election of 1784. The author of the "School for Scandal" was an extravagant person and a high liver, but his prodigality would hardly have extended to paying that price if he had not had some object in view rather than the satisfying of his epicurean desires. The philanthropist Karl of Shrewsbury in the election of 1831 expended \$78,000, of which \$60,000 was used in providing the electorate with free drinks at various public houses. In trying to win a seat in Parliament vast sums were spent, and it was seriously argued during the debate on the Reform Bill that a vote was privately property, and to secure it from a man without compensation was as much robbery as to deprive a fund holder of his dividends. They have reformed all this in England through stringent legislation. Absolute political purity is a thing of slow growth, but when England points to America as irredeemably corrupt, she is, in the light of history, somewhat in the position of the pot that called the kettle black. Bribery does not pertain to any particular people. They had it in imperial Rome, but that is no reason, of course, why we should not follow England's example and get rid of it as speedily as possible.

Peace Prospects.

The reception of Prince Louis of Battenberg in Washington and New York, officially and otherwise, is, perhaps, a better promise of the universal peace that we are looking for among all civilized nations than any indication of amity among nations that has been presented. He is through blood closely associated with both Germany and Russia, and his affiliations with England are of the most intimate character. He represents here the British nationality and in a naval capacity, and personally he is a winning and manly character.

He comes with a squadron, to be sure, but that does not signalize war, but only that the Empire of Great Britain and India is able to protect itself from all foreign attacks by sea, thus setting an example to the United States in preserving its dignity as a naval power. These two great nations should rule the sea, and thus prevent ambitious countries of smaller resources from attempting to provoke a contest.

We shall not gain peace by dismantling our forts or by letting our national docks lie idle, but by intimidating the quarrelsome by a display of strength that they will not dare to test. Thus arbitration may be promoted and bloodshed averted. There is always a great cry here about the expense of the army and navy, but we might as well find fault with the maintenance of the police as a preventive measure.

Prince Louis of Battenberg, in his address to both Americans and British entertainers, has shown solid sense. He has in no instance shopped over, and in this he has shown much of the judgment of Edward VII. in his public speeches. This monarch, by the way, visited our shores as the Prince of Wales in 1860, and though he was only a boy then he exhibited much of the amiability and freedom from ostentation which has since distinguished him, in spite of some of the shortcomings from which no mortal is free. He celebrated his genuine sixty-fourth birthday last Thursday with his usual informality, though he is keeping between this important province and the home government.

So the peace spirit grows, and that France is fraternally united with England at present was significantly exhibited in the fact that a French fleet celebrated the victory of Admiral Nelson at Trafalgar. The relations between France and America are of the most cordial character, and we can see no good reason why this trinity of nations cannot control the world in the interests of peace. It surely is a consumption most devoutly to be wished.

Curing Hams on the Farm.

According to the directions of the Bureau of Animal Industry, when the meat is cooled rub each piece with salt and allow it to drain over night. Then pack it in a barrel with the hams and shoulders in the bottom, using the strips of bacon to seal between or to put on top. Weigh out for each one hundred pounds of meat eight pounds of salt, two pounds of brown sugar and two ounces of saltpeter. Dissolve all in four gallons of water, and cover the meat with the brine. For summer use it will be safe to boil the brine before using. In that case it should be thoroughly cooled before it is used. For winter curing it is not necessary to boil the brine. Bacon strips should remain in this brine four to six weeks, hams six to eight weeks. This is a standard recipe, and has given the best of satisfaction.

Hams and bacon cured in the spring will keep right through the summer after they are smoked. The meat will be sweet and palatable if it is properly smoked, and the flavor will be good. Pickled and cured meats are smoked to aid in their preservation and to give flavor and palatability.

The smoke formed by the combustion of the wood drives the pungent to some extent out of the air and is objectionable to smokers.

Our Homes.

The Workbox.

BOY'S CAP.
Two skeins of dark blue German knitting yarn, 1 skein white, 1 pair steel knitting needles No. 10.

This cap is made in broche. Begin by casting on 100 stitches with blue.

1st row—slip 1 (* thread front of needle, slip the next stitch if about to seam and with the thread still in front knit 1 plain. Repeat from (*). In the next row always knit the stitch and the thread laid over it together, then throw thread forward and slip the next as in purling. These two rows form the entire pattern. Knit 6 rows of blue, then 2 of white, 2 of blue, 2 white, 2 blue, 2 white, and then continue with the blue wool until the piece is fourteen inches long. Then knit 1 plain, 1 alternating back and forth for three inches more.

Bind off and draw together at the top and sew up sides. Finish the top with cord and tassel of the two shades of wool. Turn the cap up two or three inches at bottom for a finish. This broche stitch is pretty for women's sweaters. EVA M. NILES.

The Complexion.

Among the very best measures are the Turkish or Russian bath. Anything to induce free perspiration is of great use in clearing the skin if the pores have been clogged. Then continued care is needed that they are kept free from dust or the deposits of perspiration. The face should be washed every day in tepid water, and dried with a very soft lined cloth. Nothing is more injurious to a delicate skin than the rubbing and scratching with coarse towels which some people seem to think is needful. An authority on complexion says that a paste made of rye flour and linseed meal is one of the very best applications for clearing the complexion. It must be made thick, and applied as a mask, and worn for fourteen hours without removing. If worn every night for ten nights there will be a wonderful change in the appearance. One can well afford to make extra long nights for the sake of securing a good complexion. When the paste is removed the face must be well washed with tepid water, and very gently rubbed with a little cold cream, which is excellent when made as follows: Spermaceti, five hundred grammes; pure wax, one hundred grammes; oil of sweet almonds, five hundred grammes; rose water, fifty grammes. Put the wax and spermaceti into a vessel placed in a kettle of boiling water; stir them gently until melted. Pour the mixture into a marble mortar, and allow it to become cool. Then stir it gently for an hour, add six drops of essence of roses, and beat the mass until it is perfectly smooth and white. Applied to the face after bathing or exposure to the sun, this cream has a very soothing and healing effect.

Grinding Tea into Powder.

"History tells us that when coffee was first brought to the cities of western Europe," says a writer in the London Times, "the first makers of it were Turks. They roasted and ground the berries and served the liquor as it is served to this day in the East—guts and all. We still drink coffee as we drank it then, with this difference, that we mostly omit the grits and drink an infusion instead of a decoction. It was not so with tea. No Chinaman was imported with the first pound of tea to teach us how to make and drink it. The consequence has been that we have never drunk tea in the Chinese way—that is, as a simple infusion.

"At first there seems to have been great doubt as to how to deal with the new herb. It is even said that it was sometimes boiled, with salt and butter, and served up as a sort of spinach. The old phrase, 'a lab of tea,' seems to bear out this legend. Finally it came to be settled that the most wholesome and pleasant way to treat the tea leaf was to make it into a kind of sweet soup, with sugar and milk or cream. I have personal knowledge of no country in Europe but one where tea is used as in China—Portugal, which got its knowledge of tea-making from a province of China, with which, at that time, no other nation of Europe was in contact.

"It was while traveling on horseback with a guide in the wilder parts of Portugal, away from the shops and inns, where we had no place to make experiments in the most economical use of the few ounces of tea and coffee that we could afford to carry with us, that we hit upon a discovery. Having no milk, we drank our tea, as most Portuguese drink theirs, as a simple infusion, sweetened with sugar.

Curious Foods.

Among civilized nations the variety of taste attracts but little attention. The vegetarians and the meat eaters each have their followers, and a recent school advocates less food and fewer meals, while there are countless fads for the delectation of the hungry.

That civilized man has missed some of the most toothsome dainties goes without saying, and it is evident that prejudice enters very largely into this. Thus, in California, the best fish, it is said, is the sardine, but in the East this fish goes begging on account of its disagreeable appearance. In Arizona Indian children may be seen catching ants and eating them; and in Mexico the honey ant is eagerly sought after by the natives, who eat the well rounded currant-like abdomen. In South America the large lizard, the iguana, is a delicacy, not to speak of the larger snakes, which in taste are like chicken. The ordinary rattlesnake is, it is said, very good eating if one can overcome the inborn prejudice.

Americans are inclined to regard Chinese as a race of rat eaters and denounce the animal as unclean, at the same time consuming tons yearly of the most loathsome of all animals—the hog. The rat is careful of his toilet, cleaning itself constantly; but the hog is the only animal of so called intelligence that revels in filth and prefers it to cleanliness. The common skunk, owing to its peculiar and offensive glands, will never be popular as food, yet its flesh is not only good, but delicious, according to various connoisseurs who have eaten it.

That insects do not enter more into the food supplies of nations is due to preconceived ideas. Grasshoppers are eaten by some Western tribes. Ground up, they make a

meal that is said to be both nourishing and agreeable. Many a white man has passed through a country, believing himself nearly starving, as large game was not to be had, when worms and various insects were at hand. During the flight of locusts Indians sometimes collect them in bags, wash them and cook them for a meal.

The most singular food, in all probability, is the larva of a fly common in certain portions of California, and known as ephydria. This insect is found in such vast quantities in Lake Mono, California, that it is washed up on the shores in vast numbers, and can be collected by bushels. The water of Mono is very singular, seemingly very heavy and smooth, like oil, so much so that it resists ordinary wind and refuses to become ruffled. When the larvae begin to appear the Indians gather from far and near and scrape them up, place the wormlike creatures on cloths and racks in the sun and dry them, when they are beaten up and husked, looking then like rice. The Indians call the food koo-shah-bee, and many bushels are collected at this time, that the larvae are nutritious is shown by the growth fat on the rich diet. Many birds are attracted by the larvae and gorge themselves with the singular food.

On Lake Texoco in Mexico a curious fly

is found which also is eaten by the natives and known as abutu; the eggs of the insect, which are deposited on sedges, are also collected and eaten for food. On Lake Chalco a certain sedge is cultivated on which the eggs of a species of fly are deposited. Bundles are made of these and placed in Lake Texoco for the purpose, and when covered, the sedge is beaten over pieces of cloth and the eggs secured. These are collected and ground into a meal, also called abutu, and are in great demand on fast days, when fish is required, the insects of eggs not being considered flesh, as they come from the water. The food is made into small cakes and tastes not like caviare. Not only the eggs, but the larvae, themselves a disagreeable looking worm, are used as food under the name of puxi.

The civilized man, perhaps, turns from such food with disgust, but it is well to remember that epicures in many countries, and especially in England and America, are particularly fond of cheese when inhabited by the larvae of a very common fly. In the United States the large octopus or squid, common on the Pacific Coast, of the American palate, but the Italian, Frenchman or Portuguese eat it with avidity and consider it a delicacy. The meat is clear and white, like chicken, and has the flavor of crab.

The question of national tastes is an interesting one, and the contrast between those of China and America is remarkable. The objects displayed in the Chinese quarter as dainties are often repugnant to Americans. We find the Chinamen selling eggs of unknown age, especially duck eggs containing ducklings ready to be hatched. Shark-fins—tough, disagreeable food—are in demand, while deer horns in the velvet and lizards of various kinds are eaten. The nest of the swallow, with its embedded secretion of the mouth glands of the bird, is nearly worth its weight in gold. Trepang, the tough, impossible holothurian, is eaten, and its collection is an important industry along the Malay coast, valued at least \$100,000 per annum.

In France the sea anemone is used as food; stuffed like peppers and boiled it calls to mind crab or crayfish. The echinids of various species is also used, cooked in the shell, like an egg, and then eaten with a spoon. In nearly all the old countries of Europe of the type of Spain and Italy the poor are so poor that everything in the nature of food is utilized. Absolutely nothing is wasted and meat is rare. The writer recalls the surprise of an Italian fisherman, who landed in California after a trip around the Horn, and was amazed, not at the country, but with the abundance of food. He found his countrymen eating meat twice, perhaps three times a day, when he rarely had it once a month. He saw hundreds of pounds of fish wasted and discarded merely because the people did not care for it, when in Italy even the heads would be boiled and eaten. He saw big tunnies towed out to sea and thrown away because they were tough, when in his own land every scrap of this fish was saved. America is indeed the land of plenty to the poor of other nations.

Certain Indians consider earthworms a delicacy. They are dried and rolled together into a peculiar flour. In Bahama and some of the Florida keys the conch is eaten—by far the toughest food known; more like India rubber than anything else, having to be beaten and pounded before it can be mashed or even cooked.—Scientific American.

Dangers of the Lean Meat Diet.

Practical experience, as well as theoretical considerations, lead to the conclusion that a lean-meat diet, continued for any great length of time, is incompatible with the highest health. For example, the leading medical teachers in France have for several years been sounding the note of warning against the use of an exclusive meat diet in diabetes, a disease for which lean meat was formerly supposed to be not only highly essential, but almost a panacea. A close study of the history of these cases has shown, however, that an exclusive meat diet is not infrequently a cause of death, through the accumulation of so great a quantity of pimeloma within the body that the overworked kidneys are unable to cope with them.

Physiological facts which are known today fully justify the statement that a lean-meat diet, continued for any great length of time, is incompatible with any means as formidable as those of the insidious but far-reaching and tissue changing poisons which accumulate in the body as the result of a lean-meat diet. The truth seems to be that a person subsisting upon a lean-meat diet, while he may manifest a greater amount of strength than upon a more natural dietary, and may be unconscious of any abnormal condition, is like a person in a powder magazine—he is in constant danger of vital catastrophe.

The poison-destroying functions of his liver and the poison-eliminating capacity of his kidneys are taxed to their utmost to keep the proportion of pimeloma and leucinomiasis in the tissues down to a point which permits of the performance of the vital functions. The margin of safety, which nature has wisely made very large in order

to provide for emergencies, is reduced to the narrowest possible limit, so that anything which temporarily interferes with the functions of the liver or the kidneys, or which imposes additional work upon them, may be sufficient to obliterate the safety margin and produce an attack of grave or fatal disease.

Invasion of the body by pimeloma-producing microbes, such as the typhoid bacillus, the bacillus of diphtheria, the pneumococcus of F. leidiana, the shools resulting from accident, and even the depression of a severe cold, may be sufficient to consume the meagre emergency capital, and the result is acute inflammation of the kidneys, or death under chloroform or from shock following an operation under anesthesia.

It is evidently the duty of the physician who places his patient upon a lean meat diet to inform him of the fact that under such a dietary he is living close to the border line, that his situation is like that of a man walking on the brink of a precipice, that he must on no account submit himself to the influence of an anesthetic without first undergoing a few days preparation, including an entire change of diet; and the truly wise physician will further instruct his patient that however a lean meat diet may be considered as a temporary expedient, it cannot be safely adopted as a continuous dietary without the risk of constitutional degradation and injury.—Health.

Housework as Physical Culture.

There is nothing like housework for physical culture. In the various complex movements performed by the different sets of muscles during the innumerable evolutions incidental to housework we have an admirable system of gymnastics peculiarly adapted to the needs of women. A certain amount of exercise which arouses and interests the mental faculties while occupying the activities of the bodily organs is necessary to health and housework undoubtedly complies with both of those conditions. In many a household the daughters take their share of the lighter branches of the work, but in many another establishment dusting is considered undignified, polishing picture, and bed-making a bore, and so the womenfolk leave the work to hired hands, while they amuse themselves at so-called physical culture classes, where, perhaps, they beat the air with Indian clubs, a form of exercise considered more dignified, if less useful, than beating carpets with rattan canes.

Japanese Marriage Laws.

Although Japan has revealed herself as highly enlightened in so many spheres of civilization, she has not yet applied reformatory principles to the institution of marriage.

There is as yet no such thing in Japan as equality between the sexes. The law relating to marriage recognizes no wrongs except on the part of the wife, from whom the husband may obtain a divorce by merely asserting that he is tired of her, or upon any of the following grounds:

Disobedience, adultery, barrenness, jealousy, physical antipathy, talkativeness or theft.

When a girl is about to marry, her mother impresses upon her various rules of conduct to be followed during her wedding life. Some of these are:

"Be always amiable to your mother-in-law and father-in-law.

"Don't talk much.

"Get up early, go to bed late, and never sleep in the afternoon.

"Until you are fifty, never mix in crowds.

"Do not consult fortune tellers.

"Do not wear light clothes.

"Be humble and polite.

"Never allow yourself to be jealous.

"Even if your husband is in the wrong, never get angry.

"Never speak evil of your neighbors.

"Strict obedience to a husband is a wife's noblest virtue."—Harper's Weekly.

Domestic Hints.

TOOTHPASTE.

Seal and skin ripe tomatoes, add a quarter of the quantity of pared, cored and quartered pleasant sour apples. Weigh the kettle, put in the tomatoes and apples, and cook to the consistency of marmalade, then to every six pounds add a teaspooonful of ginger, the juice of a large lemon and four pounds of light brown sugar; boil fifteen minutes or until it will spread smoothly.

RAISIN GRIDDLE CAKES.

Into a cup of sour milk and the same amount of sweet milk, mix two cups of flour and one-half cupful of cornmeal, a teaspooonful of salt, two tablespooonsfuls of melted butter and a teaspooonful of soda and one-half cupful of chopped raisins. Lastly beat in two eggs and have the griddle, on which the cakes are to be cooked, as hot as possible without burning.

SPICED WAFFLES.

Cream together two-thirds of a cupful of butter and 1½ cupfuls of powdered sugar; add one-half tablespooonful of ground ginger and cinnamon and just a dash of nutmeg. Mix well. Beat into the mixture one-half cupful of cold water and two cupfuls of flour, sifted twice. Roll to water thinness, cut into shapes and bake in a very moderate oven.

BANANA PIE.

Free enough bananas from stem and coarse ends to fill a cup when the pulp is pressed through a sieve or cloth. To the pulp add a beaten egg, one-half cupful of sugar, one-eighth of a teaspooonful of cinnamon, one-third of a teaspooonful of mace, one-third of a cupful of cream, and one-half cupful of milk; mix thoroughly, and bake until firm in a pie pan. Heat with poetry as for squash pie.

POLECAT AU GRATIN.

One cupful of dried boiled potatoes, one-half cupful of creamed onions, two tablespooonsfuls of melted butter, and one-eighth of a cupful of cheese. Put layers of root, potatoes and onions,

five pieces in Germany, 225 in the United States, sixteen in the United Kingdom and nineteen in the British colonies, while Germany alone has seventy-five thousand private installations.

Automobile travel seems to be already popular. W. de Fontenelle estimates that seven or eight hundred balloons voyage now over Europe, and states that the members of the French Aero Club alone made more than two hundred last year. The forms and colors of the clouds, the brightness, and the new views of the earth give a wonderful charm to sky automobile. This is increased at night, and Camille Flammarion, whose wedding trip was made in a balloon, has expressed his surprise at the splendor of the lights of a great city—in this case Paris—as well as at the brilliancy of the constellations. The number of the stars is unbelievable, the dog star becomes as bright as Venus, while some of the novelties look like gas jets. The shooting stars are terrific. Their explosions seem to be heard, and this is to be relied on, that the balloon acts like a gigantic ear trumpet, and catches such earthly sounds as the whining of locomotives and barking of dogs. Hygienically the complete renewal of the air in the lungs is a delightful sensation.

COMPETITION IN POTATOES.

Conal Mahin of Nottingham, England, reports the results of a potato-growing competition held in Derbyshire the past season. Two pounds of Duchess of Cornwall seed were supplied to each member of the Hallam Fields Garden Association. Prizes were given for the largest crop and for best quality. The first-prize winner succeeded in raising 325 pounds of potatoes from his two pounds of seed, cut into forty-one sets. The time of cultivation was 160 days. The average weight per set was 3.21 pounds, the proportion of increase being sixty-six to one. The second-prize winner raised 123 pounds, and the third 121 pounds; the remainder of the competition failing to raise 100 pounds per set. The average weight per set was 2.51 tons per acre. The combined proumt of the twenty-eight competitors was equivalent to 25.13 tons per acre. Ten tons per acre is generally considered a good yield. The average yield of the seven hundred thousand acres of potato fields in England is 6 tons per acre.

FERTILE MANCHURIA.

Manchuria is evidently a very fertile country notwithstanding the unfavorable impressions which may have been gathered from the war reports of the severity of the Manchurian winter. Judging by its products the climate is temperate and the soil of the level regions is exceedingly rich and fertile. Among the chief products are millet, Indian corn and wheat. Apples and grapes flourish; tomatoes and other vegetables can be grown in great abundance. These products indicate a climate like that of central United States, known as the corn belt. The production of millet seed is enormous, and in the export of corn and wheat Manchuria will no doubt be the great rival of the United States in supplying the Asiatic markets.

QUICK CHURNING.

A novelty at the large agricultural show in London is a churn which is reported to make butter in sixty seconds. The cream is placed in the vessel so that the "dasher" is in the centre, and about 1½ inches below the surface. The handle is then turned slowly for a few seconds, and then at a good speed, and within one minute butter is formed. If some fresh cold water be poured in and the handle turned slowly for three times, the butter is ready for washing and making up.

KILLED THE PRIZE COW.

The story comes from the Philippine Islands of the untimely end of a prize Jersey cow valued at over \$1000. The cow was to be shipped to the interior together with another cow of no special value intended for beef. When the time came for fresh meat the cook of the transport ship went to the slaughter house to get the cow. He looked the beast over, the prize winner was the best looking, and the cook killed the Jersey before those who knew which was which could enter, and the ordinary cow is still alive and happy.

INCREASE OF ENGLISH FRUIT CULTURE.

The total number of acres in Great Britain devoted to small fruit is now 78,322, as compared with 77,947 acres in 1904, showing an increase over the latter year of 575 acres, or 1.1 per cent. The acreage covered by orchards is 243,322, as compared with 243,008 in 1904, showing an increase of 313, or 0.5 per cent.

SELLING A FARM BY PICTURES.

Those who are trying to sell their farms will find good photographs quite an aid. A number of these should be taken, showing different parts of the farm and the buildings and copies left with the real estate agent. Such pictures will give intending buyers a better idea of the farm than any amount of talk or printed matter. Looking over the little magazine published by the F. Leland Farm Agency, it is noted that quite a number of farms are illustrated with views of the buildings, and it looks as if the feature ought to prove attractive to customers. This firm is quite hopeful of the future of New England farm lands and considers that a very distinct improvement has taken place in the demand and the readiness with which sales are effected. The demand for farm land is to be more and more directed toward the land, and the demand apparently includes not only mineral property, but also woodlands in New England, which are being bought through this and other agencies in large areas for investment. There never was a time when the prospect looked better for owners of real estate in the Northeastern States.

IT IS A GOOD AND SAFE RULE TO SOJOURN IN COUNTRY AS IF YOU MEANT TO SPEND YOUR LIFE THERE.

....Courage is just strength of heart; and the strong heart makes itself felt everywhere, and makes it move directly to its chosen aim.—Henry Van Dyke.

....I cannot sweep the darkness out,

Poetry.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT.
I and a man; his quiver full
Of arrows—strong, keen and true,
Whose sense of right, shall gleam anew
And shape the course—successful.
No call for freedom is unheard;
The sunrise finds his face, and he
Is armed and equipped—is free
To answer in deed and word.
The sculptor stands—with ev'ry stroke
Fearlessly a purpose plans.
Progress sings—a joyful song
Of golden promise—nor yoke,
Nor grye of silver threaded bonds,
Binds the resolute and strong.
GEORGE HERIOT.

A LITTLE GIRL I KNEW.
There was once a little girl I knew,
With dark hair braided down her back;
She lived next door, as some girls do.
And I couldn't help seeing she had a knack
For washing the steps and tending the flowers
(For the house was a little away from ours.)
I couldn't help hearing the pleasant sound
That dishes make when they touch the pan;
I wasn't the kind to hang around,
But I saw and heard as a fellow can.
(And she was a girl about as spry
As a trout that leaps to snap the fly.)
And when the windows were opened wide,
She made the brook sing out the floor,
Dusted the stones on every side,
And then through the open kitchen door
I saw her stir the pudding and cake,
And make the coffee and broil the meat.
You know I surely could hear and see
(Their house of course was far away),
And I wasn't able to say as might be,
But I must have said some words to say.
And so, concluding a fresh combine,
She moved from their house into mine.
—Flora L. De Wolf, in *Sunset Magazine*.

MY ANGEL.

O little child, that once was I,
And still in part must be,
When other children pass me by,
Again thy face I see.
Where art thou? Can the Innocence
That here no more remains,
Forst, the' e'er banished hence,
What memory retains?
Alas! and couldst thou look upon
The features that were thine,
To see of tender graces none
Abiding now in mine,
Thy heart, compassionate, would plead,
And, haply, not in vain,
As Angel Guardian, home to lead
The wanderer again.
—J. B. Tabb, in *Harper's Magazine*.

SICK!

When mother's sick, the house is all
So strangely hushed in room and hall!
But mother never will admit
She's suffering a single hit!
She won't let people do a thing—
There's nothing any one can bring—
She just lies there, and tries to fix
Herself, by cunning little tricks!
And as for doctor—why, the word
She scorns as being most absurd.
And when he comes he has to guess
At symptoms that she won't confess;
And then he's apt to frown and say:
"You should have had me right away.
I'll come again this evening"—for
It's bed, you see, a week or more!

—Century.

IN SHARON.
My little boat is in a bay,
It swings with gentle motion;
And there I lie and watch all day
The far-off, noisy ocean.

The ships go up, the ships go down,
And never see me spying;
They are the pride and fear of town,—
Sails wide and colors flying.

They are so strong, they are so tall,
They fear no storm, no sorrow;
With brave eyes to the sun, they all
Set sail for some tomorrow.

Sometimes I long to range and roam,
My harbor life bewails,

But little boats must sit at home,
To gayly speed the sailing.

—Helen Hay Whitney.

HANDS.

Sing a thumb and four fingers a-piece,
One thumb and four fingers a-piece,
They built the temples of Egypt and Greece!
Sing for in many lands
Are things of use and beauty seen,
Without hands had never been—
Without skilled hands!

White hands, deaf hands,
No hands, no fingers,
Nor on the swan more graceful shows than
Than lady's arm commands!—
O strength as of a giant's grip!
O firmness meet to stir a ship!
O swart, male hands!

Frank hands, free hands,
When shall my little ones grow great
And claim such a place for their mate?
Who thinks who understands,
How hands of soldiers and of kings,
And all those by princesses waved,
Were once a baby's hands, and craved
For jangling toys and shining things?

—T. Sturge Moore.

Brilliants.

Learn that to love is the one way to know,
Or God or Man; it is not love received
That makes man to know the inner life
Of them that love him; his own love bestowed
Shall do it.

—Jean Ingelow.

Lord, be Thou tenant of the house of clay
Morning and noon and night with ceaseless care,
Lest others enter in and, Then away,
Make for themselves a hateful lodgment there.

So come, my Lord, and make Thy dwelling here.
And if Thou, entering, seeest some evil face
Leer from its corner, let Thy shining clear
Purge and illumine every secret place.

Be as fair dawn that makes my darkness flee;
Be as love's coming when old sorrows go.
Take Thou my good, but give Thy best to me—
The Father's, Brother's heart that loved me so.

I. O. E.

I'll not confer with sorrow
Till tomorrow;
But joy shall have her way
This very day.

—T. B. Aldrich.

"If we could see today,
As God can see;
All the clouds should roll away,
The shadows flee,
Our present griefs we should not feel;
Each sorrow we should soon forget;
For many joys are waiting ye
For you and me."

(Miscellaneous.

A Woman Voter.

We naturally looked up to Immonsey. He was considerably older than the rest of us fellows—nearly twenty-one. And he is like Bostonians. He is a Boston boy. We had to ask him what that was at last. It puzzled us for some time. Jerry Hogan said it was something you took a course of at the Lewis Institute, and that a cousin of his was making big money at it in Seattle, but then Jerry had so much we never could believe him. It turned out that it meant a fellow who had any use for girls. Well, you bet Immonsey hadn't.

He used to tell us that he had been all through the mill and he knew what they were. Well, I don't know what the mill was that he went through exactly, but he knew all about women. We all boarded at the same place, you know—Mrs. Stigman—and there were some women there too.

There was Miss Pentwell. She was a strong rasher in the claim department at Mosley's. She used to sit out at the steps sometimes. Some of the rest of us used to sit with her and josh her and all that, until Immonsey came and told us about what a misogynist was and why even fellow ought to be a misogynist. Then we saw such a ridiculous sort of loftiness—meaning one noble and loyal woman in Boston. Mrs. Mary Homemey, of hallored memory. The difficulty of securing funds for the purchase of the old meeting-house became known to her. She had a meeting-house with a gift of \$100,000, and the old meeting-house was saved—stated as an object lesson to the children of future generations.

Having given such a large sum to help save the Old South Meeting-house, Mrs. Homemey felt that it should be something more than a mere silent monument. She determined that it should be a real, living force in our country, and particularly to the children of Boston. She determined that it should renew and increase its fame as a temple of freedom and that its sacred walls should again echo and re-echo to the sound of patriotic utterances, and that some of the old songs of Boston should come from the lips of the boys and girls of Boston and the Old South.

She's the kind of woman whose voice would call attention, I mean you think she is."

I said, "Oh, not particularly. I guess there's a good deal of truth in what you say. They're pretty much alike." I was feeling a little sore about being called an infant. I'm no kid."

"You're finding it out, are you?" said Immonsey. "Well, it will take you some time, but the so-ner you get through with 'em, the better."

Woman, Pipton, my boy, is harmless to the man who knows her. She's only dangerous to the inexperienced. I can see right through their little airs and graces and their little schemes. There was a time when they rather interested me, but they don't any longer. I'd sooner play a good game of pin-ball than talk to the smartest and sweetest and best looking woman you could bring in. When they're smart the girls aren't dressed smart. They haven't any sense of them. They haven't any reason—only instinct. They don't know a man when they see one. Any sort of glitter and show catches them. See the way they dress. Always priming and fixing and fusing over themselves—powdering and painting and perfuming."

He took another glance at Miss Pentwell a day or two after that at the supper table. I saw him, so that's why I know. She sort of caught his eye and half smiled and Immonsey got as red as the pickled beets and looked down at his plate. He didn't raise his eyes again until after he had left the table. I asked him what he was blushing about and he turned on me quite short and asked me what the dickens I meant. Then he said he wasn't blushing, but he had put too much tobacco on his stem. The upper lip, in fact, is nearly split in two, but held together in a depressed piece of flesh. In the marquisial and ducal the lip is practically in two pieces, and each piece is capable of being moved separately. This is the "bare lip," and its method of use may well be noticed in a hare or a rabbit when eating. The furred, says the Nineteenth Century, in the child's lip points to that—our ancestors possessed not a single upper lip, as we do now, but two pairs of lips, one beneath each nostril, both capable of independent movement. In the course of time these two pairs have given way to the nonpareil of independent movement, giving us the right to form the single lip we now possess, but the line of junction is not perfect, and so the furrow results, and sometimes there is a distinct scar down the middle of the furrow. The possession of the furrowed upper lip by children is one of the strongest pieces of evidence against the descent of man from any satyrine, and in favor of his descent from platyrhines or from lemurs through the intervention of platyrhine-like ancestors, of which there are no exact living representatives.

How Fast a Badger Works.

During the daytime the badger sleeps deep in his burrow, far out on our Western plains and in prairies, and at twilight he starts forth on a night's foraging.

He is a dreaded enemy of the prairie dog and the ground squirrel; and when he begins to exacte for one, nothing but solid rock or death can stop him. With the long, blunt claws of his forefeet he loosens up the dirt. Dig! Dig! Dig! He works as though his life depended on it, now pushing his chest and forward parts as a pusher, shoves it out before him. He works with such rapidity that it would be somewhat difficult for a man to overtake him with a spade.—St. Nicholas.

All the same, it wasn't long before he was sitting out on the steps with her. He said he hadn't anything to do that evening and it was too hot to sit in his room. It was rather a bore having her there, but he was a philosopher.

Then I went into his room one evening and he was fixing his tie before the class. I went out again and came back in about half an hour and he was still fixing his tie, only it was another kind of tie. I told him I thought he was taking a long time. He said, "Somehow I can't get the blinged tie to suit me. How do you think that looks?"

I said it looked all right, and he took another look in the glass and then put on his coat and went down and sat on the steps. Miss Pentwell was there, too, and she was sitting out on the steps. Miss Pentwell was a good sort of a girl, but she was never quite so good as she is now.

I am going to sign on his handkerchief not long after that. I didn't say anything, though. But say, if that fellow didn't begin to wear his best clothes every evening to sit on the porch. It was fierce!

Jerry and me tried to josh him one evening, but he was ugly. Jim Scott said: "Women are a pretty bum lot, aren't they, old man?"

"You are a pretty coarse cub," said Immonsey, and there was pretty near a fight. He said to me afterward: "I never did like to hear a fellow slamming women." Wouldn't that cork you, so to speak?

Sometimes they sat out on the steps ten until o'clock and used to hear Miss Pentwell laughing a good deal. Immonsey was never afraid to joke, as I wondered what the fun was, but I never got out with them, nor the other fellows didn't—except one night we did for a josh—because Immonsey seemed to get sore directly.

After the roar had subsided the teacher explained that that was only a picture of British Columbia. Then she asked Bob to British Columbia. Then she asked Bob to Success.

On Him.

Khyl (to Gladys, who has witnessed a game of football for the first time).—"Was Raggio on the eleven?"

Gladys—"Well, dear, from where I am looking as though the eleven were on him."—November Lippincott's.

Ted's Beggin'.

The new assistant rector was trying to impress upon the mind of his young son the difference between his own position and that of his superior. "Now, Ted," he ended, "I want you to remember to be very polite to the rector. We are strangers, and I am only the assistant; it becomes us to be extremely courteous. Some day, perhaps, I shall be rector myself."

The next day the boy was walking with his father when they met the dignified rector.

"Hello!" promptly began Ted. "Pop's been tellin' me 'bout you 'cause you're the real thing. He's just the hired man we've got to knuckle under."

"But some day he may be it himself, if you'll see him!"—Woman's Home Companion for November.

—T. Sturge Moore.

Poutb's Department.

WHY?

Did God pin the stars up so tight in the sky?
Why did the cow jump right over the moon?
An' why did the dish run away with the spoon?
'Cause didn't he like to see the cow fly?

Why, muzzer, why?

Can't little boys jump to the moon if they try?
An' why can't they swim just like fishes an' frogs?
An' why does the live little birds have wings?
An' live little boys have to wait till they die?

Why, muzzer, why?

Does little boys' fronts always ache when they cry?
An' why does it stop when they're cuddled up?

Why, muzzer, why?

An' what does the sandman do day, do you 'posse?

Why, muzzer, why?

An' why do you think he'll be soon comin' by?

Why, muzzer, why?

—Ethel M. Kelley, in *Century*.

Saving "Old South."

The ground on which the Old South stands was the dwelling place of Governor Winthrop. Benjamin Franklin was baptized in this meeting-house. The voices of Adams and Hancock and Warren and Washington have been heard within its walls. You will see, back of the pulpit board, and below the quaint old sounding-board, the very window through which Gen. Joseph Warren came to deliver his famous oration on the anniversary of the Boston Massacre, because the crowd in and about the church was so great he could not speak by the door.

THE PANAMA CANAL.—D. J..—Estimated cost of the canal \$200,000,000. Amount paid to Panama government for time, \$6,000,000. Amount paid to Panama government for the use of certain lands, \$10,000,000. Length of canal, six miles. Canal width varies from 200 to 500 hundred feet at top, the bottom width being 100 feet. There will be five twin locks of immense capacity, each 700 feet long and eighty-four feet wide, with a lifting capacity of thirty to thirty-two thousand cubic yards. Lake Bobo (artificial) covers thirty-one square miles. Almirante (natural) covers

nearly a square mile, and will be used for the storage of water for operating the locks and light the canal from ocean to ocean.

Distance from New York to San Francisco by the old route, 12,740 miles, by the route through the canal, 2,000 miles. Distance from New York to Manila by Panama canal, 7,200 miles. The Panama canal was practically begun in 1825 by the French company. They had completed about two-fifths of the length, when because of fraudulent management, the company failed, and was taken over by the British.

RUSSIAN POPULATION.—L. V.—The first census of the Russian Empire was taken in 1897, and the second results have now been published. The total population is 130,000,000.

In Siberia there is only 0.12 persons to the square mile, while in the government of St. Petersburg there is 1,027,000; Moscow, 900,000; Warsaw, 650,000; Odessa, 46,000; London, 515,000. The average size of a Russian family is 6.7 persons, which is even larger than in Germany, where it is 4.6.

THE FURROW BENEATH THE NOSE.—K.—

In the faces of babies and children this furrow is very noticeable. From the evolutionist's point of view, it is one of the most remarkable characters of the face. It tends to become obsolete in old age, and it is not seen among the catarrhines.

It is a deep groove in the nose, which is the result of the nostril being contracted.

It is a deep furrow in the nose, which is the result of the nostril being contracted.

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The Horse.

The Desirable Carriage Horse. The instincts of the American people naturally incline them to the admiration of a great horse of any class, but they should not be swept into the whirlpool of horse breeding on sentiment alone. It takes more than the love of the horse to be a successful breeder.

Many will ask what is the shape and what are the requirements that constitute a carriage horse? He should be harmonious in all proportions, such as high withers; deep brisket; prominent breast; well sprung ribs; good flank; head of medium size, clean and bony; jowl not too prominent; frontal broad; large, clear eye; ear small at base, of medium length and sharp at point; throat small; neck long with slight crest; sloping shoulders; prominent muscles; back short and powerfully muscled over the loins; curve to the tail; strong hocks, legs and feet, with flat bone and large cords; trotting action quick, high and round, free and clean, with not too long a stride.

Such a horse crossed on mares of a few handsome branches of the trotting families might and probably would give us what is wanted—the horse of the future. Years ago the Morgans were the horses par excellence. They were handsome to look at and tough as wire nails. They had good, strong legs and strong hearts and stomachs. In color they were blacks, browns, bays or chestnuts.

Their hair showed the lustre of health and the gleam of sunlight, and they were spiced with the temper of nerve force, but never stubborn. Physically they were not large horses, but they were all horse. Many were about nine hundred pounds in weight and under fifteen hands, but in harness they looked larger. Breeders who remember the form and type of the Morgan horse should realize that horses of that type, weighing from nine hundred to thirteen hundred pounds, are what the world is looking for.

Breeders' Notes.

There are four styles of horses for which there is a genuine and earnest demand all over the land today, and for this demand there is not sufficient supply, and in some instances no source of supply. First, the handsome coach horse; second, the handy, sound work horse; third, the prospective 2.05 or better light harness performer, and fourth, the handsome and gentle in all places saddle horse.

We have had more inquiry for good horses during the past three weeks than during any likely period for several years. This seems to indicate a shortage of good animals and a further advance in prices. This scarcity of good horses is likely to continue for several years, if business throughout the country remains prosperous.

It is an open question whether or not the forcing of yearlings to such an extent as is necessary to enable them to trot quarters in thirty-five seconds does not injure their ability for racing after they are fully matured. That probably depends considerably upon the hereditary constitution of the youngsters, and more still on the judgment of the man who trains them. It evidently did not injure the horses (2.06) to develop them sufficiently to trot a quarter in thirty-five seconds as a yearling.

During the New York State Fair at Syracuse a horse was exhibited which in some respects was a most remarkable animal. He was a beautifully made gelding, standing twenty-two hands high and weighed twenty-eight hundred pounds. He was a rich chestnut in color and of remarkably fine carriage. Wonderful as was his size, his peculiar marks were even more astonishing for growing from the frontal bone, perhaps two inches above the line of the eyes, were two horns about an inch in length, and the white marking in his face was the perfect form of the head and shoulders of a deer.

All over the country one hears the question asked, "Where can I find a pair of fine-appearing carriage horses from fifteen to sixteen hands, stylish, sound and serviceable?" The question does not get one satisfactory reply in ninety-eight. Why is this? It is because of the unwillingness to pay a good price? No; the gentleman that wants them is as a general rule a liberal buyer and an offer of one or two, three, or even five thousand dollars for such a pair is not uncommon. It is not price, nor is it lack of activity to hunt for them, either on the part of the gentleman who wants them, or the dealer whose business it is to supply them, for there is no part of this broad land in which there is a probability of finding such horses, where they have not been sought.

Star Pointer (1.38) has been taken to California to the regret of some horsemen. There are plenty of fast pacing stallions left on this side of the Rockies to answer all practical purposes, and great as Star Pointer (1.38) was as a performer and is as a sire, some of those that are left are pretty sure to produce as valuable stock as he. The trotting-bred pacer is as fast and as game as any of the pacing-bred ones, and the trotting-bred ones are pretty sure to get a trotter occasionally, and this is what the pacing-bred one seldom does. Trotters, as a rule, require more training to develop their speed than pacers. Fast trotters, however, are in better demand and sell for higher prices than fast pacers, and are preferred to the latter for road use by most horsemen.

—Horse Breeder.

Butter Prices Nearly Steady.

With moderate receipts of choice fresh butter dealers are turning more and more to the storage goods and fresh made sells rather slowly unless extra fine. Many shipments are beginning to show extra quality, and need to be choice to compare well with June creamery from storage.

Quotations hold at the recent advance, and hardly anything sells above 24 cents, which figure is, in fact, the top figure quoted for regular lines, and the majority of sales range a fraction lower, down to 23 cents for extra Western creamery in large ash tubs. The market appears to hold present prices with some little difficulty, especially for the lower grades, which are in full supply and dull of sale. Yet there is no special reason to anticipate a sag in prices, other than the rather dull demand noted.

Storage creamery, although used in considerable quantities, does not yet out much figure on the general market. It sells at about one cent below the top price of fresh creamery. Print goods and butter in boxes is in fairly good supply with quotations steady, ranging about one-half cent above tub.

The situation is favorable for storage butter which is being used in considerable quantities by the trade, and such stock as

is taken out seems to be of fine and even quality. The storage of butter has been reduced to a science and results in a very nice product when stock was originally good. Fresh butter, however, is, of course, preferred by the trade when the supply is sufficient and not too much above the cost of storage butter. The stock in the storage houses is still considerably larger than last year, although going out at a rapid rate.

Receipts at New York are gradually falling off, as must always happen at this time of year, but shipments are still more than thirty per cent larger than last year at this time, a condition which is significant when taken in connection with the large reserve in storage. Fortunately the demand is good both for regular receipts and storage goods. The grades slowest of sale are the lower qualities of fresh made stock, which can hardly compete at the same price with summer made butter from storage. The best selling lots are the strictly choice fresh made and the choice summer stored.

Several thousand packages of butter were shipped to Europe during the week, nearly all of low-grade stock bought at low prices.

Dairy butter is in extremely light supply and selling at about one cent below creamery butter for the small proportion which is of choice quality. The general run of shipments is lower grade and sells at 18 to 22 cents.

Receipts of all grades of butter have kept up on a larger scale than many operators expected, but the season thus far has been very mild and open and the larger territory covered by the centralizing plants undoubtedly is increasing the production anywhere from ten to twenty-five per cent over last year at this time. There is a very unsatisfactory trade in the lower grades of fresh and the stock is piling up in store. Some houses are burdened with accumulations and are making concessions whenever there is an opportunity of moving the goods. On held creamery the movement is not large; a few buyers are interested and occasional sales reported at from 2 to 22 cents, rarely a little more for special lots. It would be very difficult for holders to effect important sales unless concessions were made. No sale is available across the water at prices which permit selling on present market in New York.

It is reckoned that about one-third of the Aroostook potato crop has been shipped to market. Some of the stock is going by the new water way via Stockton Springs, landing at the Union wharf in Boston. The big lots are shipped in this way, but bulk potatoes are shipped in cars.

ported unwilling to sell at present prices, but are holding for higher figures later in the season. This state of mind among the shippers is fortunate for the condition of the market, as it insures a gradual marketing of the crop rather than an oversupply at any one time. The price in this market is fully as high as last week, although receipts continue liberal. The shipments from Europe, which are large and liable to become larger with any advance in the market, are the one feature which would tend to prevent any very high prices. Plenty of potatoes seem to be available across the water at prices which permit selling on present market in New York.

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Immigrants Buying Goose Feathers.

The substantial feather beds filled with goose feathers have become less popular among our native population in most sections.

But the demand for the feathers has suddenly increased as the result of the large increase in the number of immigrants during the last few years. The Italians, Poles, Russian Jews and other foreigners that have been swarming into the country by the millions have almost all been accustomed to sleeping in feather beds. Many of them bring their beds along when they come to America, but sell every other article of their household effects, so desirous are they of having a soft place to sleep. There are, however, many who do not bring them, and they usually spend little time after reaching this shore before they hunt for a feather bed.

It is an exceedingly uncommon sight to see a man and his wife, and perhaps a child or two, waiting about the stations leading out from the large cities with apparently little baggage aside from the feather bed.

A number of large business houses in New York and Boston have seen the increase in the demand for the goods and have opened stores where they sell nothing else but feathers. The fact that geese are no longer grown to any extent makes it difficult for the dealers to secure enough goods to meet the demand. They have in consequence offered junk dealers good prices for all the old second-hand feather beds they can buy. The junk dealers or ragmen, especially in this and nearby cities, have been making strenuous efforts to get the beds, as they can usually buy them cheap and sell them in New York and Boston at big profits. These peddlers usually travel through all sections of the country, and most of the beds that are purchased come from the back hills.

There is, of course, a stray one picked up here and there about the cities and towns which had been retained for grandpas and grandmas, but they are greatly in the minority.

Poultry Plenty. Prices Hold Well.

The poultry market holds steady, the weather being so far favorable to handling the stock and creating a demand. Northern turkeys quote at 28 cents and Western at 19 to 20 cents for best quality, with other grades ranging one to five cents below choice. Ice-packed Western turkeys sell about the same as dry packed at this season.

Light well-conditioned chickens suitable for broilers are in light supply, the majority of shipments being medium weight and suitable for neither broilers nor roasters. These are rather hard to sell, but both broilers and roasters are easily disposed of if choice. Poults hold at prices last quoted. Live poultry is in fair demand, especially for heavy weight, well-fattened chickens and fowls, but low-grade stock sells cheap.

On the whole, the behavior of the chicken market indicates rather lower prices than last year. At present turkeys quote two to three cents lower than last year at this time and fowls one to 12 cents less. Some dealers say the demand is not quite up to the usual standard, but it is likely that with continued cold, favorable weather there will be plenty of buyers even for the large supplies now arriving and in sight. The quality of shipments seems to average fully as good as last year. The favorable feature is the general prosperity and the apparent willingness of the general public to buy and pay for the best poultry regardless of price. With favorable weather a record-breaking trade is quite possible, although present indications are that the extreme price figures of some years will not be reached.

Spring turkeys are in liberal supply in the current receipts and invoices of stock to arrive later in the week. Trading is moderate today, as speculative buyers are inclined to hold off and await later developments.

Holders are steady to firm in their views on fancy grades, but prices without improvement.

All indications point to favorable holiday market. Supplies will undoubtedly be heavy, but weather conditions have been favorable, the birds promise to be of better quality than usual for Thanksgiving, while general conditions of most all classes are prosperous and an unusually large consumption demand looked for. Some shippers are looking for extreme prices, but general quotations here are for an 18 to 21 cent market for fancy Western during the holidays.

Chickens and fowls are in light supply, and while only moderately active for the

low grade turkeys to \$3 for choice.

Jersey Keifers sell at \$1.50 to \$3 per bushel, with natives about 50 cents higher than Jersey.

At New York demand for apples is quiet and with heavy offerings the market opens weak, though holders asking about late prices, and some exceptionally fine fruit from Vermont and also far Western sections is commanding more than quoted. Pears in light remaining stock and quotations little more than nominal. Quinces are about cleaned up. Grapes are in light supply and anything showing choice quality sells well, but poor stock dull and irregular. Cranberries are very firm in shipping sections, and with continued good trading here, the market is well sustained, with some fancy fruit commanding more than quoted.

have advanced fully 5 cents, but European offerings are larger and market lower for these. Irish seldom exceed \$2, and that figure is about top for average best German; fancy Scotch would command more, possibly up to \$2.50, but there are no offerings.

Sweet potatoes are in heavy supply and weak, average Southern stock selling at 75 to 90 cents.

White onions firm and higher for fancy, but ordinary lots are without improvement; yellow, unchanged in price, but tone is weaker; red, steady to firm for strictly prime. Cabbages firm. Brussels sprouts are in light supply. Cauliflower is in much larger supply and lower, though some fancy marks work out above quotations. Cucumbers are moving slowly, but quality is largely poor. Celery quiet. Cippolini steady. Horseradish in liberal supply. Kale scarce and firm. Spinach sells well at 75 cents to \$1, except very poor, which ranged lower. Lettuce is increasing in supply, offerings including some Florida stock; demand fair, but quality irregular and prices vary accordingly. Lima beans are about cleaned up, and the few remaining lots show very ordinary quality. Peppers steady. Very few pears are arriving for fancy, but ordinary lots are without improvement; yellow, unchanged in price, but tone is weaker; red, steady to firm for strictly prime. Cabbages firm. 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